



**NOTICE OF TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
FOR THE TOWN OF CROSS ROADS
MONDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2021 AT 7:00 P.M.**

**LOCATION: 1401 FM 424, CROSSROADS, TEXAS 76227
Or**

Residents can participate via Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84012545936>

Meeting ID: 840 1254 5936

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,84012545936# US (Houston)

1. Roll Call
2. Invocation – Pastor John Eaton, Relate Church
3. Pledge of Allegiance – Mayor Pro Tem Dave Meek
4. Council Member Announcements and Updates.
5. Mayor Announcements and Updates.
6. Citizens Input (Items on the agenda and not on the agenda)
If commenting via Zoom, please use the Raise Your Hand feature. Please state your full name before speaking. Please limit your comments to three minutes in duration. You are restricted from passing your time or any portion of unused minutes to another citizen for comment.
7. Updates; Discussion of Same.
 - Town Administrator Announcements and Updates – Kristi Gilbert
 - Financial Reports
 - Building Permits and Development
 - Law Enforcement – Presentation by Shaun Short
 - Parks and Recreation Board/Connectivity Committee/Municipal Development District

CONSENT AGENDA

8. Consider approval of meeting minutes September 20, 2021.
9. Consider an ordinance adopting the second amendment to the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 budget for the Town of Cross Roads.
10. Consider approval of a resolution approving a negotiated settlement between the Atmos Cities Steering Committee (ACSC) and Atmos Energy Corp., Mid-Tex Division regarding the company's 2021 Rate Review Mechanism (RRM) filing.

REGULAR SESSION

11. Discuss and consider approval of a resolution adopting the Town of Cross Roads Vision 2035 and associated next steps for future planning.

12. Discuss and consider approval of a resolution designating the official newspaper of record for the Town of Cross Roads.
13. Consider a resolution appointing full member and an alternate member to fill vacancies on the Parks and Recreation Board.
14. Discuss and consider approval of a resolution appointing an alternate Commissioner to the Planning and Zoning Commission.
15. Consider a resolution appointing full member to fill a vacancy on the Municipal Development District.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

16. The Town Council will convene into Executive Session pursuant Texas Government Code, annotated, Chapter 551, Subchapter D for the following:

Texas Government Code, Section 551.072 - Deliberation Regarding Real Property; to deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the governmental body in negotiations with a third person: FM 424

17. Take action as may be necessary or appropriate on matters discussed in Executive session.
18. Council requests for future agenda items.

Adjourn

Future Events and Meetings

All citizens are invited to participate; schedule may change.

- *National Night Out – Tuesday, October 5th, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.*
- *Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting – Tuesday, October 5th, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.*
- *Parks and Recreation Board Meeting – Wednesday, October 6th, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.*
- *Municipal Development District Meeting – Thursday, October 14th, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.*
- *Town Council Meeting – Monday, October 18th, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.*
- *Town Council Meeting – Monday, November 1st, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.*

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned authority, do hereby certify that this Public Meeting Notice was posted on the official bulletin board at the Town Hall of the Town of Cross Roads, Texas on or before Friday, September 29th, 2021 at 5:00 p.m., in accordance with Chapter 551, Texas Government Code.

As authorized by Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code, this meeting may be convened into closed executive session for seeking confidential legal advice from the Town Attorney on any agenda item listed herein.

This facility is wheelchair accessible and accessible parking spaces are available. For requests, please contact Town Hall at 940-365-9693. Reasonable accommodations will be made to assist your needs. This facility is wheelchair accessible and accessible parking spaces are available.

Donna Butler

Town Secretary

I certify that the attached notice and agenda of items to be considered by the Town Council of the Town of Cross Roads was removed by me from the front window of the Town of Cross Roads Town Hall, 1401 FM 424, Cross Roads, Texas, on the _____ day of _____, 2021.

_____, Title: Town Secretary



**MINUTES OF TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
FOR THE TOWN OF CROSS ROADS
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2021 at 7:00 P.M.**

**LOCATION: VIRTUAL and IN PERSON at
1401 FM 424, CROSSROADS, TEXAS 76227**

1. Call to Order – **7:11 P.M.**
2. Roll Call: **Mayor Tompkins, Council Members Phillips, Meek, and Gaalema.**
Council Members King and White-Stevens not present.
3. Invocation led by **Jeff Kossack.**
4. Pledge of Allegiance led by **Kristi Gilbert.**
5. Council Member's announcements and updates.
None.
6. Mayor's announcements and updates.
Mayor Tompkins met with Representative Jarred Patterson regarding the status of electricity in North Texas. He explained that Little Elm Fire and EMS has been surveying the service area. He announced the dates for the Community Vision Meeting, the Cross Roads Police Department Ribbon Cutting, and National Night Out and stated there have been no new Covid cases in a couple of days.
7. Presentation from Chief Short on the status of the Cross Roads Police Department.
Chief Short explained progress in several areas, including staff, acquiring records, equipment and supplies, patches, uniforms, vehicles, and training.
8. Citizens Input (Items on the agenda and not on the agenda)
Via Email - Connie Lipscomb and Tammy Sweeney
In-person – Bob Gorton, Collette Olivieri, and Cody Clark

CONSENT AGENDA

9. Consider action on the Town's monthly financial reports – July and August 2021.
10. Consider approval of the September 7, 2021 Council Meeting Minutes.
11. Consider approval of an Interlocal Agreement with the Denton County for Public Safety Application Support and Maintenance and authorize the Town Administrator to execute the same.
12. Consider approval of a final plat application for the Hillside Venue Addition generally located at 901 Moseley within the Town of Cross Roads. (2021-0809-05FPLAT)
13. Consider approval of a final plat application for the Rustic Furniture Addition generally located at 11901 US Hwy 380 within the Town of Cross Roads. (2021-0809-06FPLAT)
14. Consider approval of a final plat application for the Modern Pyramids Crossroads Addition generally

located at 6500 US Hwy 380 within the Town of Cross Roads. (2021-0809-07FPLAT)

15. Consider approval of an application for a tree removal permit submitted by Ken Meyers, for property located at 205 Meadowcreek Drive to remove a dead tree over 18" in diameter at breast height.
16. Consider approval of the disposition of assets from the dissolution of the Northeast Municipal Court.

**Motion to approve Consent Agenda, after pulling Item 17, made by Gaalema;
Second by Dave Meek;
Passed unanimously.**

17. Consider approval of procedures with regard to Northeast Police Department Officer pay and benefits.
Item 17 pulled to be discussed with Item 23.

REGULAR BUSINESS

18. Discuss and consider an ordinance adopting the second amendment to the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 budget for the Town of Cross Roads.
Tabled.
19. CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING, discuss and consider an ordinance adopting the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 budget for the Town of Cross Roads.
**Motion to approve made by Gaalema;
Second by Phillips;
Passed unanimously.**
20. CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING, discuss, and consider an ordinance approving the request by Larry Coker on behalf of owner Anthony Cimino for a change in Future Land Use Map from C1-Commercial 1 to C2-Commerical 2 for Tract 87B, of the J. Bridges Abstract A0036A, generally located at 5400 FM 424, Cross Roads, Denton County, Texas. (2021-0809-02FLUP)
**Motion to approve made by Meek;
Second by Gaalema;
Phillips voted no;
Passed 2 to 1.**
21. Discuss and consider action on a final plat application and request for waiver to the right-of-way dedication for the Millcreek 8 Addition located at 401 Mill Creek Road, Town of Cross Roads. (2021-0809-04FPLAT)
**Motion to approve made by Phillips;
Second by Meek;
Passed unanimously.**
22. Discuss and consider action on a request by Paige Mejia on behalf of property owner Brittney Samford for an exception from the Town's noise restrictions to allow for a firework display at 11:00 p.m. on April 16, 2022 at the Hillside Estate Wedding Venue located at 901 Moseley Road.
**Motion to deny made by Phillips;
Second by Meek;
Denial passed unanimously.**
23. Discuss and consider approval of a Resolution adopting amendments to the Town of Cross Roads Personnel Handbook.
**Item 17:
Motion to approve Item 17 as presented made by Meek;
Second by Phillips;**

Passed unanimously.

Item 23:

EXECUTIVE SESSION – 9:20 to 9:46 P.M.

24. The Town Council will convene into Executive Session pursuant to the following:

- a. Texas Government Code, Section 551.072 - Deliberation Regarding Real Property; to deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the governmental body in negotiations with a third person.

25. Take action as may be necessary or appropriate on matters discussed in Executive session.

No action taken.

26. Request for future agenda items.

ADJOURN – 9:47 P.M.

T. Lynn Tompkins, Jr., Town Mayor

Donna Butler, Town Secretary



COUNCIL AGENDA BRIEFING SHEET

Meeting Date:

October 4, 2021

Agenda Item:

Consider an ordinance adopting the second amendment to the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 budget for the Town of Cross Roads.

Prepared by:

Kristi Gilbert, Town Administrator

Description:

At the June 21, 2021 Council meeting, an amendment to the FY 2020-2021 budget was approved to add expenditures related to the establishment of the Cross Roads Police Department. With the preparation of the FY 2021-2022 budget, Staff determined that it was appropriate to transfer unexpended funds dedicated for street repairs in the amount of \$150,000 to the Road Improvement Fund to be dedicated for future capital road projects. This transfer requires a second amendment to the FY 2020-2021 budget.

In reviewing revenues to date and activities related to the establishment of the Cross Roads Police Department, Staff has determined some adjustments to the FY 2020-2021 budget are necessary. These include the following:

- Adjusting revenues to reflect actuals more accurately. Primarily this results in an increase to revenue line items, with the exception of the Mustang Franchise Fee which came in lower than anticipated.
- Increasing the following expenses items:
 - Advertising and Promotions to include expenditures for the final visioning event
 - Codification services for a slightly higher expense than anticipated
 - Legal fees for more hours than anticipated
 - Vehicle maintenance due to unexpected minor repairs to the Town's truck
 - Lease & CAM Payments due to an adjustment in the actual square footage of rental space
 - Park Maintenance due to slightly higher costs than anticipated
 - Decrease in Street and ROW Cleanup due to the rainy weather that prevented some mowings
 - Decrease in Street Repairs due to lack of projects; however, the balance will be transferred to the Road Improvement Fund for future capital projects
 - Increased sanitation contract as a direct result of increased permits (and increased revenue)
 - Increased supplies for the Police Department including evidence supplies, office supplies, vehicle maintenance/graphics and furniture
 - Increase in contract services for the use of contract background investigators and associated background items

COUNCIL AGENDA BRIEFING SHEET

- Substantial decrease in officer wages and related items due to most officers starting late September instead of the conservative budget estimates of late-July

Staff Recommended Action:

Staff recommends approval of an ordinance adopting the second amendment to the FY 2020-2021 Budget.

Attachments:

Ordinance adopting FY 2021 Budget Amendment

	2021 Budget	FY21 Budget Amendment 1	FY21 Budget Amendment 2
Income			
1000 Sales Tax Collections	2,100,000.00	2,625,000.00	2,625,000.00
1004 Beverage Tax Collections	16,000.00	17,500.00	21,830.00
Higher than anticipated collections			
1006 Franchise Tax-Telecom	10,000.00	5,000.00	5,300.00
Higher than anticipated collections			
1008 Franchise Tax- Waste	24,000.00	22,500.00	22,500.00
1010 Franchise Tax-Electric/Gas	107,000.00	97,500.00	97,500.00
1018 Franchise Tax- Mustang SUD	12,000.00	16,500.00	14,750.00
Revenues lower than anticipated			
2000 Development/Platting Permit Fees	6,000.00	12,000.00	17,750.00
Professional Service Deposit for Civil Engineering, increase fees			
2002 Residential/Commercial Building Permits and Inspections	175,000.00	325,000.00	325,000.00
FY 21 anticipated a OHR, Phase 1, actual permits paid for were 64 (73 submitted) of the 142 lots (\$190,000) as of 5.28.21. Includes 9 commercial and 3TFO. OHR Ph 2 (113) lots anticipates permit issuance beginning Summer 2022. Project 20 permits for OHR, Ph2, 7 other SFR, 8 comm, 2 TFO in FY22 - Application fees to increase in FY22, 60 OHR, Ph2,10 SFR, 9 comm, 3 TFO in FY 23; 23 OHR, Ph2 and 20 (of 136) OHR Ph3, and 12 SFR, 10 comm 4 TFO in FY 24; 80 OHR, Ph3, 10 SFR, 10 Com & 4 TFO in FY25; 36 OHR, Ph3, 10 SFR, 8 Com & 4 TFO in FY 26			
2004 Septic Permits and Fees	3,000.00	4,500.00	5,575.00
FY 21 based on 16 permits. FY 22 based on 15 permits with increase in application fees			
2006 Health Inspection and Fees	9,000.00	11,000.00	11,000.00
2008 Signs Permit and Fees	2,000.00	2,400.00	5,300.00
FY 21 based on 36 permits. FY 22 based on 36 permits, with increase in application fees			
3000 Administrative Fees	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
3001 Un-Permitted Tree Kill Fine		1,232.00	1,232.00
3004 MDD Contribution	240,000.00	240,000.00	240,000.00
3006 Interest Income	7,000.00	7,000.00	10,500.00
Higher than anticipated			
3009 NEMC Personnel Reimbursement	105,000.00	105,000.00	105,000.00
3011 NEPD Personnel Reimbursement	13,500.00	13,500.00	13,500.00
3014 Credit Card Processing Fee	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,200.00
Pass through account for PayPal - Credit Card Processing Fee of 3.24%			
Total Income	\$ 2,833,000.00	3,509,132.00	3,525,437.00
Expenses			
6001 Accounting and Auditing Fees	4,500.00	4,500.00	4,500.00
6002 Advertising and Promotion	1,000.00	1,500.00	2,500.00
Increased fees related to visioning activities			
6004 Software	25,000.00	53,000.00	53,000.00
6006 Codification Services	1,000.00	1,825.00	2,225.00
Higher than anticipated			
6008 Election Costs	14,000.00	8,400.00	8,400.00
6010 TML Insurance	7,500.00	7,500.00	7,500.00
6012 Legal Fees	12,000.00	40,000.00	68,000.00
More hours than anticipated			

6014 Office Expenses	10,000.00	10,000.00	11,500.00
Purchase of more supplies for new lease space			
6016 Public Notices/Dues	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,500.00
More notices published than anticipated			
6018 Repair and Maintenance	20,000.00	18,000.00	18,000.00
6020 Vehicles Maintenance - Admin	2,000.00	2,200.00	3,000.00
Unanticipated maintenance needs for Town truck			
6022 Training	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
60XX Lease & CAM Payments - Town Hall		13,100.00	19,000.00
Square footage increased after final measurements resulting in total monthly payments of \$5,757.02			
6024 Utilities	19,000.00	18,000.00	18,000.00
6028 Lovetts 380 Agreement	85,451.00	0.00	0.00
6030 Paypal Charge	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,200.00
Pass through account for PayPal - Credit Card Processing Fee of 3.24%			
7000 Police Department Services	982,644.00	982,644.00	982,644.00
7002 Interlocal Ambulance	27,830.00	27,830.00	27,830.00
7004 Interlocal Fire	425,000.00	425,000.00	425,000.00
8000 A Park Maintenance	10,000.00	10,000.00	11,500.00
Maintenance costs higher than anticipated			
8002 Park Events	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
8004 Park Improvement Fund	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
8006 Careflite Services	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,000.00
Less use of services than anticipated			
8007 Capital Additions	15,000.00	136,500.00	97,500.00
Transfer Opticoms out to capital improvement for FY22			
8008 City of Aubrey Library Fund	21,500.00	21,500.00	21,500.00
8500 Street Materials and Signs	8,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00
8502 Street and Row Cleanup	40,000.00	40,000.00	30,000.00
Reduced due to less mowing from rainy season			
8504 Street Contract/Repairs - Transfer to Road Improvements	458,000.00	458,000.00	308,000.00
Reduced to less repairs, balance of 150,000 to be transferred to road improvement fund			
9000 Engineering Services	75,000.00	75,000.00	75,000.00
9002 Res & Com Building Review & Insp.	9,000.00	9,000.00	9,000.00
9004 Other Professional Services	1,500.00	84,000.00	84,000.00
9006 Code Enforcement Services	2,000.00	2,000.00	1,200.00
Less inspections than anticipated			
9008 Sanitarian Services	5,000.00	5,000.00	7,000.00
Increased based on increased permits			
9010 Animal Control	13,800.00	13,800.00	13,800.00
9506 Admin Employee Health Benefits/Wellness	36,500.00	38,000.00	38,000.00
9502 Admin Taxes	35,000.00	34,000.00	34,000.00
9504 Admin Wages	415,000.00	422,000.00	422,000.00
95XX Overtime			
9500 Admin Retirement - TMRS	31,275.00	32,000.00	32,000.00
P-8025 Law Enforcement Supplies	0.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,500.00
Increased to purchase unanticipated items			
P-8050 Uniforms	0.00	\$ 13,500.00	\$ 13,500.00
P-8065 Ammunition	0.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
P-8067 Evidence Supplies	0.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 4,500.00
Increased to purchase items for start up			
P-8070 Office Supplies	0.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 7,500.00

Increased to purchase items for start up including some furniture			
P-8075 Postage	0.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
P-8094 Office Equip - Rental	0.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00
P-8095 IT Support - Police	0.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,000.00
P-8130 Training / Travel	0.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
P-8140 Dues & Subscriptions	0.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
P-8160 Contract Services	0.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
was audit services; Used for contracted background investigators for new hires, psych/poly, medical			
P-8300 Legal	0.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
P-8410 Community Events	0.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
P-8076 Landscaping	0.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
P-8152 Electricity	0.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00
P-8153 Water	0.00	\$ 70.00	\$ 70.00
P-8155 Bldg Maint/Cleaning	0.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 1,500.00
Increased for cost of cleaning/removing items from building			
P-8110 Telephone (cell phone)	0.00	\$ 1,875.00	\$ 1,875.00
P-8154 DCSO - Dispatch Fees	0.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -
Decreased, no dispatch fees necessary for FY 21			
P-8170 Software/Upgrade/Maint.	0.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
P-8005 Payroll Holiday	0.00	\$ 3,400.00	\$ -
P-8006 Payroll Overtime	0.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
P-8010 Officer Wages	0.00	\$ 99,952.67	\$ 32,000.00
Reduced based on officer start date of mid-Sep instead of late July			
P-8015 Workers Comp	0.00	\$ 3,965.40	\$ 1,400.00
~3.8%			
P-8020 Payroll Taxes SS/Med	0.00	\$ 7,982.98	\$ 2,500.00
~7.65%			
P-8030 Quickbooks Payroll Fee	0.00	\$ 1,900.00	\$ 200.00
P-8035 TMRS	0.00	\$ 7,857.76	\$ 2,500.00
~7.65%			
P-8040 Medical Ins. (All Insurance)	0.00	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
P-8041 Longevity	0.00	\$ 7,500.00	\$ -
P-8042 Incentive Pay	0.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
P-8045 Liability	0.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
P-8085 Gas	0.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
P-8090 Vehicle & Equipment Maintenance	0.00	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 12,500.00
Vehicle graphics & anticipated repairs/tires			
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 2,833,000.00	\$ 3,022,799.00	\$ 2,864,799.00
Less Expenses for Decision Packages			
Balance	\$ 0.00	\$ 486,333.00	\$ 660,638.00
Transfer Out to Road Improvement Fund	50%		\$ 150,000.00
Transfer Out to Capital Improvement Fund (Opticom)	3%	\$ -	\$ 39,000.00
Net Income	\$ 0.00	\$ 486,333.00	\$ 471,638.00
Beginning Balance	\$ 661,012.00	\$ 661,012.00	\$ 661,012.00
Ending Balance	\$ 661,012.00	\$ 1,147,345.00	\$ 1,132,650.00
% Reserve	23%	38%	40%
Days of Reserve	85	139	144



COUNCIL AGENDA BRIEFING SHEET

Meeting Date:

October 4, 2021

Agenda Item:

Consider approval of a resolution approving a negotiated settlement between the Atmos Cities Steering Committee (ACSC) and Atmos Energy Corp., Mid-Tex Division regarding the company's 2021 Rate Review Mechanism (RRM) filing.

Prepared by:

Kristi Gilbert, Town Administrator

Description:

The Town of Cross Roads is a member of the Atmos Cities Steering Committee (ACSC) which is represented by the law firm of Lloyd Gosselink. The ACSC's purpose is to review and make recommendations regarding rates and other compliance issues with regard to Atmos Energy. Please see the attached report from Lloyd Gosselink with regard to recent rate activity and their suggested approval of a negotiated settlement.

Staff Recommended Action:

Staff recommends approval of a resolution approving a negotiated settlement between the Atmos Cities Steering Committee (ACSC) and Atmos Energy Corp.

Attachments:

ACSC Staff Report with Attachments
Resolution

July 21, 2021

MODEL STAFF REPORT FOR RESOLUTION OR ORDINANCE

BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY

The City, along with 171 other Mid-Texas cities served by Atmos Energy Corporation, Mid-Tex Division (“Atmos Mid-Tex” or “Company”), is a member of the Atmos Cities Steering Committee (“ACSC”). In 2007, ACSC and Atmos Mid-Tex settled a rate application filed by the Company pursuant to Section 104.301 of the Texas Utilities Code for an interim rate adjustment commonly referred to as a GRIP filing (arising out of the Gas Reliability Infrastructure Program legislation). That settlement created a substitute rate review process, referred to as Rate Review Mechanism (“RRM”), as a substitute for future filings under the GRIP statute.

Since 2007, there have been several modifications to the original RRM Tariff. The most recent iteration of an RRM Tariff was reflected in an ordinance adopted by ACSC members in 2018. On or about April 1, 2021, the Company filed a rate request pursuant to the RRM Tariff adopted by ACSC members. The Company claimed that its cost-of-service in a test year ending December 31, 2020, entitled it to additional system-wide revenues of \$43.4 million.

Application of the standards set forth in ACSC’s RRM Tariff reduces the Company’s request to \$40.5 million, \$29.3 million of which would be applicable to ACSC members. ACSC’s consultants concluded that the system-wide deficiency under the RRM regime should be \$22.34 million instead of the claimed \$40.5 million. The amount of the \$22.34 million deficiency applicable to ACSC members would be \$16.8 million.

After the Company reviewed ACSC’s consultants’ report, ACSC’s Executive Committee and the Company negotiated a settlement whereby the Company would receive an increase of \$22.78 million from ACSC Cities, but with a two-month delay in the Effective Date until December 1, 2021. This should save ACSC cities approximately \$3.8 million.

The Executive Committee recommends a settlement at \$22.78 million. The Effective Date for new rates is December 1, 2021. ACSC members should take action approving the Resolution before October 1, 2021.

PROOF OF REVENUES

Atmos generated proof that the rate tariffs attached to the Resolution will generate \$22.78 million in additional revenues from ACSC Cities. That proof is attached as Attachment 1 to this Staff Report. ACSC consultants have agreed that Atmos' Proof of Revenues is accurate.

BILL IMPACT

The impact of the settlement on average residential rates is an increase of \$1.28 on a monthly basis, or 2.2 percent. The increase for average commercial usage will be \$4.03 or 1.61 percent. A bill impact comparison is attached as Attachment 2.

SUMMARY OF ACSC'S OBJECTION TO THE UTILITIES CODE SECTION 104.301 GRIP PROCESS

ACSC strongly opposed the GRIP process because it constitutes piecemeal ratemaking by ignoring declining expenses and increasing revenues while rewarding the Company for increasing capital investment on an annual basis. The GRIP process does not allow any review of the reasonableness of capital investment and does not allow cities to participate in the Railroad Commission's review of annual GRIP filings or allow recovery of Cities' rate case expenses. The Railroad Commission undertakes a mere administrative review of GRIP filings (instead of a full hearing) and rate increases go into effect without any material adjustments. In ACSC's view, the GRIP process unfairly raises customers' rates without any regulatory oversight. In contrast, the RRM process has allowed for a more comprehensive rate review and annual evaluation of expenses and revenues, as well as capital investment.

RRM SAVINGS OVER GRIP

While residents outside municipal limits must pay rates governed by GRIP, there are some cities served by Atmos Mid-Tex that chose to remain under GRIP rather than adopt RRM. Additionally, the City of Dallas adopted a variation of RRM which is referred to as DARR. When new rates become effective on December 1, 2021, ACSC residents will maintain an economic monthly advantage over GRIP and DARR rates. See Attachment 3.

EXPLANATION OF “BE IT RESOLVED” PARAGRAPHS:

1. This section approves all findings in the Resolution.
2. This section adopts the RRM rate tariffs and finds the adoption of the new rates to be just, reasonable, and in the public interest.
3. This section makes it clear that Cities may challenge future costs associated with gas leaks like the explosion in North Dallas or the evacuation in Georgetown.
4. This section finds that existing rates are unreasonable. Such finding is a necessary predicate to establishment of new rates. The new tariffs will permit Atmos Mid-Tex to recover an additional \$22.78 million from ACSC Cities.
5. This section approves an exhibit that establishes a benchmark for pensions and retiree medical benefits to be used in future rate cases or RRM filings.
6. This section approves an exhibit to be used in future rate cases or RRM filings regarding recovery of regulatory liabilities, such as excess deferred income taxes.
7. This section requires the Company to reimburse the City for expenses associated with review of the RRM filing, settlement discussions, and adoption of the Resolution approving new rate tariffs.
8. This section repeals any resolution or ordinance that is inconsistent with the Resolution.
9. This section finds that the meeting was conducted in compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551.

10. This section is a savings clause, which provides that if any section is later found to be unconstitutional or invalid, that finding shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remaining provisions of this Resolution. This section further directs that the remaining provisions of the Resolution are to be interpreted as if the offending section or clause never existed.
11. This section provides for an effective date upon passage. December 1, 2021 represents a two month delay in the Effective Date established by the RRM tariff.
12. This section directs that a copy of the signed Resolution be sent to a representative of the Company and legal counsel for ACSC.

CONCLUSION

The Legislature's GRIP process allowed gas utilities to receive annual rate increases associated with capital investments. The RRM process has proven to result in a more efficient and less costly (both from a consumer rate impact perspective and from a ratemaking perspective) than the GRIP process. Given Atmos Mid-Tex's claim that its historic cost of service should entitle it to recover \$43.4 million in additional system-wide revenues, the RRM settlement at \$22.78 million for ACSC Cities reflects substantial savings to ACSC Cities. Settlement at \$22.78 million (plus \$3.8 of additional savings due to the two-month delay) is fair and reasonable. The ACSC Executive Committee consisting of city employees of 18 ACSC members urges all ACSC members to pass the Resolution before October 1, 2021. New rates become effective December 1, 2021.

**Attachment 1 to
Model Staff Report**

2021 RRM

Proof of Revenues

**ATMOS ENERGY CORP., MID-TEX DIVISION
RRM CITIES RATE REVIEW MECHANISM
PROOF OF REVENUES - RRM CITIES
TEST YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2020**

Line No.	Customer Class	Current	Proposed	Bills	Ccf/MmBtu	Current Revenues	Proposed Revenues	Increase
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)
1	Residential							
2	Customer Charge	\$ 20.25	\$ 20.85	13,861,632		\$ 280,698,048	\$ 289,015,027	\$ 8,316,979
3	Consumption Charge	0.26651	0.27979		627,298,034	167,181,199	175,511,717	\$ 8,330,518
4	Revenue Related Taxes					30,398,805	31,528,717	
5	Total Class Revenue					<u>\$ 478,278,052</u>	<u>\$ 496,055,461</u>	<u>\$ 17,777,409</u>
6								
7	Commercial							
8	Customer Charge	\$ 54.50	\$ 56.50	1,094,352		\$ 59,642,184	\$ 61,830,888	\$ 2,188,704
9	Consumption Charge	0.11728	0.12263		363,850,875	42,672,431	44,619,033	\$ 1,946,602
10	Revenue Related Taxes					6,944,376	7,225,051	
11	Total Class Revenue					<u>\$ 109,258,991</u>	<u>\$ 113,674,972</u>	<u>\$ 4,415,981</u>
12								
13	Industrial & Transportation							
14	Customer Charge	\$ 1,014.50	\$ 1,054.75	7,056		\$ 7,158,312	\$ 7,442,316	\$ 284,004
15	Consumption Charge Tier 1	\$ 0.4157	\$ 0.4330		7,479,741	3,109,328	3,238,728	\$ 129,400
16	Consumption Charge Tier 2	\$ 0.3044	\$ 0.3171		8,282,846	2,521,298	2,626,490	\$ 105,192
17	Consumption Charge Tier 3	\$ 0.0653	\$ 0.0680		13,018,926	850,136	885,287	\$ 35,151
18	Revenue Related Taxes					925,722	963,306	
19	Total Class Revenue					<u>\$ 14,564,796</u>	<u>\$ 15,156,127</u>	<u>\$ 591,331</u>
20								
21	Total Excluding Other Revenue					<u><u>\$ 602,101,840</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 624,886,561</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 22,784,721</u></u>
22								\$ 21,336,550
23								
24	Revenue Related Tax Factor	6.7873%						

**Attachment 2
to 2021 RRM Staff Report**

Bill Impact

**ATMOS ENERGY CORP., MID-TEX DIVISION
AVERAGE BILL COMPARISON - BASE RATES
TEST YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2020**

Line No.							Current	Proposed	Change
1	Rate R @ 45.2 Ccf								
2	Customer charge						\$ 20.25		
3	Consumption charge	45.2	CCF	X	\$ 0.26651	=	12.05		
4	Rider GCR Part A	45.2	CCF	X	\$ 0.16000	=	7.23		
5	Rider GCR Part B	45.2	CCF	X	\$ 0.33320	=	15.06		
6	Subtotal						\$ 54.59		
7	Rider FF & Rider TAX								
8	Total						\$ 58.30		
9									
10	Customer charge							\$ 20.85	
11	Consumption charge	45.2	CCF	X	\$ 0.27979	=		12.65	
12	Rider GCR Part A	45.2	CCF	X	\$ 0.16000	=		7.23	
13	Rider GCR Part B	45.2	CCF	X	\$ 0.33320	=		15.06	
14	Subtotal							\$ 55.79	
15	Rider FF & Rider TAX							3.79	
16	Total							\$ 59.58	\$ 1.28
17									2.20%
18									
19	Rate C @ 332.5 Ccf								
20	Customer charge						\$ 54.50		
21	Consumption charge	332.5	CCF	X	\$ 0.11728	=	38.99		
22	Rider GCR Part A	332.5	CCF	X	\$ 0.16000	=	53.20		
23	Rider GCR Part B	332.5	CCF	X	\$ 0.26321	=	87.51		
24	Subtotal						\$ 234.20		
25	Rider FF & Rider TAX							15.90	
26	Total						\$ 250.10		
27									
28	Customer charge							\$ 56.50	
29	Consumption charge	332.5	CCF	X	\$ 0.12263	=		40.77	
30	Rider GCR Part A	332.5	CCF	X	\$ 0.16000	=		53.20	
31	Rider GCR Part B	332.5	CCF	X	\$ 0.26321	=		87.51	
32	Subtotal							\$ 237.98	
33	Rider FF & Rider TAX							16.15	
34	Total							\$ 254.13	\$ 4.03
35									1.61%

36	Rate I @ 4079 MMBTU					Current	Proposed	Change
37	Customer charge					\$ 1,014.50		
38	Consumption charge	1,500	MMBTU	X \$	0.4157 =	623.55		
39	Consumption charge	2,579	MMBTU	X \$	0.3044 =	785.05		
40	Consumption charge	0	MMBTU	X \$	0.0653 =	-		
41	Rider GCR Part A	4,079	MMBTU	X \$	1.5625 =	6,373.46		
42	Rider GCR Part B	4,079	MMBTU	X \$	0.5380 =	2,194.58		
43	Subtotal					\$ 10,991.14		
44	Rider FF & Rider TAX		\$ 10,991.14	X	0.06787 =	746.00		
45	Total					<u>\$ 11,737.14</u>		
46								
47	Customer charge						\$ 1,054.75	
48	Consumption charge	1,500	MMBTU	X \$	0.4330 =	649.50		
49	Consumption charge	2,579	MMBTU	X \$	0.3171 =	817.80		
50	Consumption charge	0	MMBTU	X \$	0.0680 =	-		
51	Rider GCR Part A	4,079	MMBTU	X \$	1.5625 =	6,373.46		
52	Rider GCR Part B	4,079	MMBTU	X \$	0.5380 =	2,194.58		
53	Subtotal					\$ 11,090.09		
54	Rider FF & Rider TAX		\$ 11,090.09	X	0.06787 =	752.72		
55	Total					<u>\$ 11,842.81</u>	\$ 105.67	
56								0.90%
57	Rate T @ 4079 MMBTU					Current	Proposed	Change
58	Customer charge					\$ 1,014.50		
59	Consumption charge	1,500	MMBTU	X \$	0.4157 =	623.55		
60	Consumption charge	2,579	MMBTU	X \$	0.3044 =	785.05		
61	Consumption charge	0	MMBTU	X \$	0.0653 =	-		
62	Rider GCR Part B	4,079	MMBTU	X \$	0.5380 =	2,194.58		
63	Subtotal					\$ 4,617.68		
64	Rider FF & Rider TAX		\$ 4,617.68	X	0.06787 =	313.41		
65	Total					<u>\$ 4,931.09</u>		
66								
67	Customer charge						\$ 1,054.75	
68	Consumption charge	1,500	MMBTU	X \$	0.4330 =	649.50		
69	Consumption charge	2,579	MMBTU	X \$	0.3171 =	817.80		
70	Consumption charge	0	MMBTU	X \$	0.0680 =	-		
71	Rider GCR Part B	4,079	MMBTU	X \$	0.5380 =	2,194.58		
72	Subtotal					\$ 4,716.63		
73	Rider FF & Rider TAX		\$ 4,716.63	X	0.06787 =	320.13		
74	Total					<u>\$ 5,036.76</u>	\$ 105.67	
75								2.14%

**Attachment 3
to 2021 RRM Staff Report**

RRM Monthly Savings Over GRIP and DARR Rates

**ATMOS ENERGY CORP., MID-TEX DIVISION
RESIDENTIAL AVERAGE BILL COMPARISON
(EXCLUDING GAS COSTS)**

	ACSC Settled	DARR Settled	ATM Filing	ENVIRONS Filing
Customer Charge	\$20.85	\$23.80	\$27.68	\$25.90
Monthly Ccf [1]	45.2	52.7	45.2	45.2
Consumption Charge	\$0.27979	\$0.19526	\$0.14846	\$0.18653
Average Monthly Bill	\$33.50	\$34.09	\$34.39	\$34.33
		-\$0.60	-\$0.89	-\$0.83

[1] Recognizes that average normal usage for Dallas residential customers is greater than Mid-Tex average.

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF _____, TEXAS, APPROVING A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT BETWEEN THE ATMOS CITIES STEERING COMMITTEE (“ACSC”) AND ATMOS ENERGY CORP., MID-TEX DIVISION REGARDING THE COMPANY’S 2021 RATE REVIEW MECHANISM FILING; DECLARING EXISTING RATES TO BE UNREASONABLE; ADOPTING TARIFFS THAT REFLECT RATE ADJUSTMENTS CONSISTENT WITH THE NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT; FINDING THE RATES TO BE SET BY THE ATTACHED SETTLEMENT TARIFFS TO BE JUST AND REASONABLE AND IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST; APPROVING AN ATTACHED EXHIBIT ESTABLISHING A BENCHMARK FOR PENSIONS AND RETIREE MEDICAL BENEFITS; APPROVING AN ATTACHED EXHIBIT REGARDING AMORTIZATION OF REGULATORY LIABILITY; REQUIRING THE COMPANY TO REIMBURSE ACSC’S REASONABLE RATEMAKING EXPENSES; DETERMINING THAT THIS RESOLUTION WAS PASSED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE TEXAS OPEN MEETINGS ACT; ADOPTING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; DECLARING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND REQUIRING DELIVERY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE COMPANY AND THE ACSC’S LEGAL COUNSEL.

WHEREAS, the City of _____, Texas (“City”) is a gas utility customer of Atmos Energy Corp., Mid-Tex Division (“Atmos Mid-Tex” or “Company”), and a regulatory authority with an interest in the rates, charges, and services of Atmos Mid-Tex; and

WHEREAS, the City is a member of the Atmos Cities Steering Committee (“ACSC”), a coalition of similarly-situated cities served by Atmos Mid-Tex (“ACSC Cities”) that have joined together to facilitate the review of, and response to, natural gas issues affecting rates charged in the Atmos Mid-Tex service area; and

WHEREAS, ACSC and the Company worked collaboratively to develop a Rate Review Mechanism (“RRM”) tariff that allows for an expedited rate review process by ACSC Cities as a

RESOLUTION NO. _____

substitute to the Gas Reliability Infrastructure Program (“GRIP”) process instituted by the Legislature, and that will establish rates for the ACSC Cities based on the system-wide cost of serving the Atmos Mid-Tex Division; and

WHEREAS, the current RRM tariff was adopted by the City in a rate ordinance in 2018; and

WHEREAS, on about April 1, 2021, Atmos Mid-Tex filed its 2021 RRM rate request with ACSC Cities based on a test year ending December 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, ACSC coordinated its review of the Atmos Mid-Tex 2021 RRM filing through its Executive Committee, assisted by ACSC’s attorneys and consultants, to resolve issues identified in the Company’s RRM filing; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee, as well as ACSC’s counsel and consultants, recommend that ACSC Cities approve an increase in base rates for Atmos Mid-Tex of \$22.78 million applicable to ACSC Cities with an Effective Date of December 1, 2021; and

WHEREAS, ACSC agrees that Atmos’ plant-in-service is reasonable; and

WHEREAS, with the exception of approved plant-in-service, ACSC is not foreclosed from future reasonableness evaluation of costs associated with incidents related to gas leaks; and

WHEREAS, the two month delayed Effective Date from October 1 to December 1 will save ACSC ratepayers approximately \$3.8 million off new rates imposed by the attached tariffs (Exhibit A); and

WHEREAS, the attached tariffs (Exhibit A) implementing new rates are consistent with the recommendation of the ACSC Executive Committee, are agreed to by the Company, and are just, reasonable, and in the public interest; and

RESOLUTION NO. _____

WHEREAS, the settlement agreement sets a new benchmark for pensions and retiree medical benefits (Exhibit B); and

WHEREAS, the settlement agreement establishes an amortization schedule for regulatory liability prepared by Atmos Mid-Tex (Exhibit C); and

WHEREAS, the RRM Tariff contemplates reimbursement of ACSC's reasonable expenses associated with RRM applications;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF _____, TEXAS:

Section 1. That the findings set forth in this Resolution are hereby in all things approved.

Section 2. That, without prejudice to future litigation of any issue identified by ACSC, the City Council finds that the settled amount of an increase in revenues of \$22.78 million for ACSC Cities represents a comprehensive settlement of gas utility rate issues affecting the rates, operations, and services offered by Atmos Mid-Tex within the municipal limits arising from Atmos Mid-Tex's 2021 RRM filing, is in the public interest, and is consistent with the City's authority under Section 103.001 of the Texas Utilities Code.

Section 3. That despite finding Atmos Mid-Tex's plant-in-service to be reasonable, ACSC is not foreclosed in future cases from evaluating the reasonableness of costs associated with incidents involving leaks of natural gas.

Section 4. That the existing rates for natural gas service provided by Atmos Mid-Tex are unreasonable. The new tariffs attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit A, are just and reasonable, and are designed to allow Atmos Mid-Tex to recover annually an additional \$22.78 million from customers in ACSC Cities, over the amount allowed under currently approved rates. Such tariffs are hereby adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. _____

Section 5. That the ratemaking treatment for pensions and retiree medical benefits in Atmos Mid-Tex's next RRM filing shall be as set forth on Exhibit B, attached hereto and incorporated herein.

Section 6. That subject to any future settlement or decision regarding the balance of Excess Deferred Income Tax to be refunded to ratepayers, the amortization of regulatory liability shall be consistent with the schedule found in Exhibit C, attached hereto and incorporated herein.

Section 7. That Atmos Mid-Tex shall reimburse the reasonable ratemaking expenses of the ACSC in processing the Company's 2021 RRM filing.

Section 8. That to the extent any resolution or ordinance previously adopted by the Council is inconsistent with this Resolution, it is hereby repealed.

Section 9. That the meeting at which this Resolution was approved was in all things conducted in strict compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551.

Section 10. That if any one or more sections or clauses of this Resolution is adjudged to be unconstitutional or invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remaining provisions of this Resolution, and the remaining provisions of the Resolution shall be interpreted as if the offending section or clause never existed.

Section 11. That consistent with the City Ordinance that established the RRM process, this Resolution shall become effective from and after its passage with rates authorized by attached tariffs to be effective for bills rendered on or after December 1, 2021.

Section 12. That a copy of this Resolution shall be sent to Atmos Mid-Tex, care of Chris Felan, Vice President of Rates and Regulatory Affairs Mid-Tex Division, Atmos Energy Corporation, 5420 LBJ Freeway, Suite 1862, Dallas, Texas 75240, and to Thomas Brocato,

RESOLUTION NO. _____

General Counsel to ACSC, at Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C., 816 Congress Avenue,
Suite 1900, Austin, Texas 78701.

DULY PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
_____, TEXAS, BY A VOTE OF ____ TO ____, ON THIS THE _____
DAY OF _____, 2021.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Attorney



COUNCIL AGENDA BRIEFING SHEET

Meeting Date:

October 4, 2021

Agenda Item:

Discuss and consider approval of a resolution adopting the Town of Cross Roads Vision 2035 and associated next steps for future planning.

Prepared by:

Kristi Gilbert, Town Administrator

Description:

In March 2021, Mayor Tompkins kicked off the Community Visioning Project with Debbie K. Womack of Greater Yield providing the planning services free of charge. The project has included several different visioning events with the community, staff, boards, committees, volunteers, and the Town Council. The project culminated in the presentation of the Cross Roads Vision 2035 at a community meeting held on Sunday, September 26th.

Associated with the Vision 2035 plan are suggested next steps of moving forward with a Strategic Plan which, once complete, will provide valuable information for the Comprehensive Land Use Plan that will be prepared with the assistance of legal and planning consultants.

Staff Recommended Action:

Staff recommends approval of a resolution adopting the Cross Roads Vision 2035 Final Vision and Next Steps Plan.

Attachments:

Resolution

Cross Roads Vision 2035 Final Vision and Next Steps Plan

PowerPoint Presentation of Cross Roads Vision 2035 Plan

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-_____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CROSS
ROADS, TEXAS ADOPTING AND APPROVING THE CROSS ROADS
VISION 2035; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

WHEREAS, the Town of Cross Roads engaged Greater Yield to collect data, meet with the Town Council, Staff, Board, Commissions, Committees and Cross Roads stakeholders to develop a vision and core values for the community; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Cross Roads has determined that it is in the best interest of the Town of Cross Roads and its residents to adopt the Cross Roads Vision 2035 plan.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF CROSS ROADS,
TEXAS:**

SECTION 1. That the Cross Roads Vision 2035 Final Vision and Next Steps Plan, a copy of which is attached hereto as “Exhibit A,” is hereby approved and adopted.

SECTION 2. That this resolution shall take effect immediately from and after its passage in accordance with the provisions of the Town of Cross Roads, and it is accordingly so resolved.

APPROVED on this the 4th day of October, 2021.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Donna Butler, Town Secretary

T. Lynn Tompkins, Jr. Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Matthew C. G. Boyle, Town Attorney

TOWN OF CROSS ROADS VISION 2035





CROSS ROADS VISION 2035 FINAL VISION AND NEXT STEPS PLAN

BUILDING OUR FUTURE, TOGETHER

This report presents the vision and strategic action plan that has been developed following Greater Yield's community engagement program during the Town of Cross Roads Vision 2035 process. Throughout 2021 approximately 536 people have participated in a series of surveys, engagement sessions (in-person & via Zoom), and focus group sessions. This engagement process was designed to provide an open, inclusive and transparent platform for community members to help create a shared vision for the Town of Cross Roads.

This report represents Greater Yield's summary of the engagement outcomes, and how this data has informed the identification of a preferred future and strategic data for the updates necessary to the Cross Roads Comprehensive Plan. As the project consultant, Greater Yield was given the responsibility to develop a data-driven process, which has informed this report.

September 2021

Report Prepared by:





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Acknowledgments

The Town of Cross Roads Vision 2035 – Building Our Future, Together was developed based on feedback from the Town of Cross Roads officials and community input both in-person and online events, resulting in 536 responses. Thank you to all who participated throughout the process during a challenging time. The visioning process helped gather collective ideas for having next step priorities in place. Thank you to the following for their support and input to this project.

PROJECT CHAMPION

Mayor of the Town of Cross Roads, Texas

T. Lynn Tompkins, Jr.

Town Council Members

Dave Meek – Mayor Pro-Team, Council Member

Greg Gaalema – Council Member

Ron King – Council Member

Wendy White-Stevens – Council Member

Town of Cross Roads Administrative Staff

Kristi Gilbert – Town Administrator

Rodney Patterson – Building Official

Karen Padilla – Accounting Tech/Payroll

Brenda Sanchez – Court Administrator

Donna Butler – Town Secretary

Christy Sayer – Permit Tech

Cross Roads Police Department

Shaun Short – Police Chief

Madison Gotthardt – Records/Admin Asst

Danny Rounsavall – Sergeant

Kris Tyler – Sergeant

Chris Bardwell – Officer

Michael Draut – Officer

Mark Ladusau – Officer

David Lightfoot - Officer

Municipal Development District

John Knox – President

Sara Montazeri – Vice President

Mady Killfoil – Member

Allan Neubauer – Member

LQ Vann – Member

Planning and Zoning Commission

Jim Riley – Chair

Gary Daniels – Member

James Dominy – Member

Kay Neubauer – Member

David Wright – Member

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

Ronald Zohfeld – Chair

Vicki Knox – Vice Chair

Blanche Dillion – Member

Angela Gorton – Member

Steven Killfoil – Member

Herman Oosterwijk – Member

Paula Paus – Member

Community Workshop Participants and Survey Respondents

Special thanks to the community members who provided feedback during this project.



The Town of Cross Roads Leadership Vision 2035 – Building Our Future Together Team



T. Lynn Tompkins, Jr.
Mayor



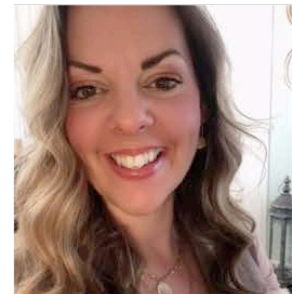
David R. Meek
Mayor Pro-Tem
Councilman



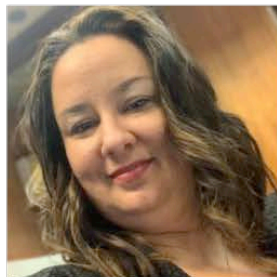
Ron King
Councilman



Greg Gaalema
Councilman



Wendy White-Stevens
Councilwoman



Kristi Gilbert
Town Administrator



Shaun Short
Chief, CR Police Dept.



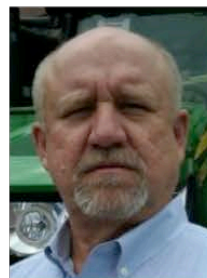
Paul Rust
Chief, Little Elm FD



John Knox
President
Municipal Dev.
District



Sara Montazeri
Vice President
Municipal Dev.
District



Jim Riley
Chair
Planning & Zoning
Commission



Ron Zofeld
Chair
Parks & Rec
Advisory Board



Vicki Knox
Vice Chair
Parks & Rec
Advisory Board



Mayor's Letter to Citizens

It is my pleasure to introduce the Town of Cross Roads Vision 2035 – “Building Our Future Together” Final Report. Cross Roads is a place we call home, a strong and healthy community where residents and visitors feel they belong.

I know that people love our Town, desire to be a part of our community and want to have a voice in the direction we are headed. So in Feb 2020, I made the decision to request that a Community Visioning process be undertaken for the citizens of the Town of Cross Roads. We are poised for positive change over the next 20 years and as a Town, it was imperative that we develop our vision of the future for what we, as citizens want Cross Roads to be.

I am extremely proud of the collaboration and commitment from our community in this process. Over the past 8 months, citizens from a diverse range of backgrounds, new and long term residents, and young and old stepped forward and became involved with this visioning process.

This process has included hundreds of our citizens who were involved in public events, Zoom and in-person meetings, surveys and additional means of gathering input from numerous sources. The visionary statements included in this document are intended as opportunities to keep Town of Cross Roads citizens involved in a continual process of planning for our future and will be a part of our community leaders' strategic and operational planning decisions. This visioning process presented residents an opportunity to express core beliefs and a preferred future while learning and listening to each other's priorities, hopes, and dreams. We discovered that there is more that unites us than divides us. At every step in the process, we tapped into the strengths of our community.

Our community has worked together for generations to preserve our quality of life, our history and our culture and this will continue through the implementation of Vision 2035. I encourage everyone who was a part of, and those who are new to, “Vision 2035 – Building our Future, Together” to become involved in and supportive of the views and concepts included in this document. We, and future generations, will be the beneficiaries of this foresight.

Finally, I want to thank all of the amazing people, who stepped forward and became involved with this visioning program, including the community members who share their wealth of positive ideas and inspiration to make this process successful. There is a passion around opportunities for positive change.

On behalf of the participating members of Town Council, I want to express our gratitude and reaffirm our support as we continue to move the Town of Cross Roads forward – **BUILDING OUR FUTURE TOGETHER!**

Sincerely,

T. Lynn Tompkins, Jr.

T. Lynn Tompkins, Jr.
Mayor, Town of Cross Roads



Greater Yield Letter

Dear Mayor T. Lynn Tompkins Jr., Town Council and Cross Roads Community Members,

It is with great pleasure that Greater Yield, Inc. (GY) submits this Final Report on the Town of Cross Roads Vision 2035 - Building Our Future, Together (VISION 2035). This report summarizes all aspects of our work as well as detailed community input obtained during the Visioning process. This document is intended to be a valuable resource for future planning, decision-making and the creation of the Towns Comprehensive Plan so it is properly aligned with the communities' desires and vision.

GY work began in February 2021 when, Mayor T. Lynn Tompkins, Jr. requested a group to provide a Community Visioning to the Town of Cross Roads. GY and its owner Debbie Womack were referred to the Town for the initial discussions. Part of the mission of GY is to pay it forward and give back to the community. Ms. Womack made the decision that GY would provide a condensed version of a Community Visioning Project as part of its give back to the community.

GY made it a priority that the Visioning process was community-driven, and engaged a broad representation of community members, to ensure that the Vision Statement would reflect extensive community input. Throughout the process, GY has worked closely with the Cross Roads community to ensure that these priorities were realized. We worked with the community to customize and deliver a fully collaborative process to create the Community Vision Statement. Through this Visioning process, residents of the Town reflected on current and potential opportunities and thought creatively about the future.

GY has very much enjoyed working with The Town of Cross Roads and the Cross Roads Community. We want to express a special gratitude to the Mayor, Town Council and all the boards, commissions, committees and town government department members who made vital contributions to the process at key points along the way and the citizens of the Town of Cross Roads for being open and engaged with throughout this project.

It has been a pleasure to facilitate this important community-led effort, and we look forward to additional partnership opportunities in the near future.

Sincerely,

Debbie K. Womack

Debbie K. Womack
CEO, Owner
Greater Yield, Inc.
214-707-6006
dwomack@greateryield.com



What is Visioning?

“Visioning” is a term used to describe a strategic planning process that develops an image of what a community would like to be in the future and the start of the foundation for an implementation plan on how to get there. In conjunction with the town’s strategic financial planning initiatives, Cross Roads actively participates in operational strategic planning processes. These processes ensure that the quality of life desired and provided through Cross Roads operations is also fiscally responsible and sustainable.

Cross Roads citizens, businesses, staff and elected officials continuously strive to improve the Town of Cross Roads. The elected body and staff of Cross Roads work diligently to ensure that every effort is made to provide the community with what it wants and needs at the greatest possible value. As financial and operational challenges grow, Cross Roads staff and officials grow with them.

A good community visioning process is designed to help a community prepare and plan for the future. A great visioning process will allow the community to search for and identify key attributes that will define it over the coming 10 – 20 years. In many ways a visioning process is a positioning exercise, to find the sweet spot where real life circumstances, emerging trends, and community aspiration converge.

The Vision Statement is the “road map” to the Town of Cross Roads future, clearly explaining what is held as important and essential to the community’s identity as well as presenting hopes for the future. It will guide its citizens and community leaders down the path towards creating the shared community vision of Cross Roads in 2035.

The Town of Cross Roads and other neighboring towns and cities throughout the region are working to share services and share knowledge to ensure the very best decisions are made for the citizen’s of Cross Roads. Dedicated staff, knowledgeable and progressive elected officials and strategic planning efforts are invaluable in the battle for progress in an ever-changing world.

Town of Cross Roads Vision 2035 – Building Our Future Together is the starting point and will serve as an important foundation for other strategic efforts, such as the Town’s Comprehensive Plan and Capital Improvement Plans. The Mayor and Town Council have flagged Cross Roads Vision 2035 as an important priority.



Brief History of Cross Roads

The Town of Cross Roads was formed by a group of people determined to maintain independence from the City of Denton. The founders did not want the high taxes that would accompany annexation to become their future; independence and country living was a way of life they wished to keep. In 2023, the Town of Cross Roads will celebrate its' 50th anniversary and the Towns people still appreciate these values.

If you look at the landscape of Cross Roads over the last 50 years, it has changed vastly. Take a step back in time to picture Cross Roads as it was in 1970. East of Denton on Highway 380/377, there stood a long, two-lane raised bridge over the Elm Fork of the Trinity River and the flood plain it served that was known as “the flatlands”. A long-time resident stated that if you had your car windows rolled down in the summer while driving across the bridge or rode horseback across the flatlands, you could smell the fragrance of the Autumn Sage that bloomed wild. This is before Lake Lewisville was expanded and before Lake Ray Roberts was planned. In those times, water only covered the flatlands when the heavy rains caused flooding. Then the water would recede, leaving rich bottomland for cattle grazing in the summer, and a wonderful place for duck and quail hunting in the winter.

Continuing east on Highway 380/377, to the left is Rock Hill Road. In 1970, it was a dirt road with a rickety wooden bridge, in sore need of repair. Continuing up the hill, there was a panorama of the valley carved from years of river flooding and the TWU dormitory in Denton in the background. To the right is Moseley Road, which in 1970 had huge piles of gravel that TxDOT used to maintain the roads. There were no stores or businesses on Highway 380/377, just two or three big piles of gravel. In this area is Rock Hill House, built as a hunting lodge in the 1850's. The doors are a solid three inches thick to keep intruders out with iron bars across the doors and windows inside.

Just after Moseley, Highway 380/377 splits with a small overpass for 377 to go up to Aubrey. Back in 1970, on Highway 380 there was a ranch or two to until FM 424. On the northwest corner of Highway 380 and FM 424 there was one store, T&O, named for the Turner and Ottinger families who ran the store. This quaint, grayed wood front store always needed a coat of paint, and had a door on a creaky spring that slammed shut with a big bang. This is the place for people in the community to buy eggs and milk, visit and find out about “What’s going on.” They still had a hitching post for horses out front in 1970! This is how the area looked that was soon to be incorporated as Cross Roads, Texas.

With a population of about 300, James M. (Jim) Cundall and Jerry Burns with the financial help of Denton Co-op Power, drew up a petition, talked to neighbors, and then talked to more neighbors about having a Town with no ad valorem tax to protect against annexation by the City of Denton. Blanche Dillon, the daughter of James Cundall, recalls this story of her father trying to convince neighbors of the wisdom of incorporating the Town. “I remember one day while the incorporation was underway, Dad and I had gone up to T&O to get some milk and I waited in the car. As Dad was walking out of the store with the bag, a man was following after him yelling about taxes. All of a sudden, the man



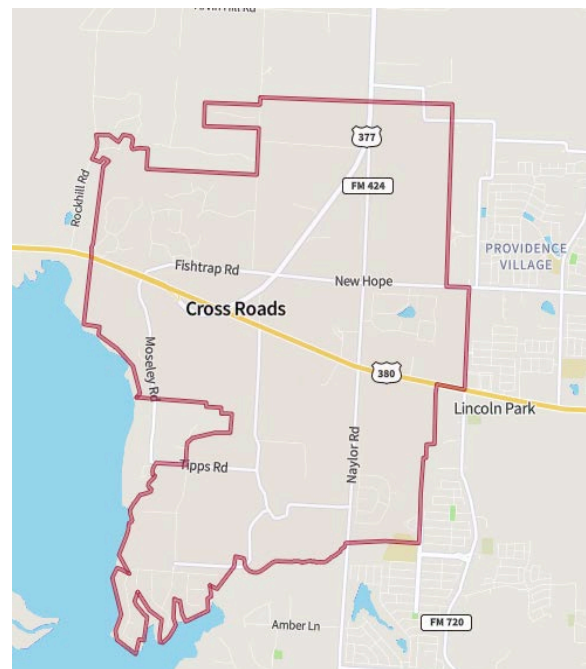
punched my dad in the face! I jumped out of the car and began screaming at this man who was startled to see me. He quickly got in his truck and drove away. I was quite concerned for my father who reassured me that he was fine as he straightened his glasses. His next words to me were, “Well I see I have more work to do. People don’t seem to understand that we are doing this to protect our property.” And he continued his efforts!”

In the 1970s, the City of Denton was expanding its ETJ out Highway 380 and they also wanted to expand the Denton City Landfill that was located in Cross Roads on the corner of Moseley and Tipps Road. At that time very few of the area residents wanted to become a part of the City of Denton and they wanted the dump to close, not expand. On April 23, 1973, Denton County Judge Tom Todd, received the petition to incorporate a defined area around the crossroads of Fish Trap Road and FM 424 and to the south and west, as an official Town. Among those who signed the petition are: Jerry Burns, La Rue Ludwig, Billy S. Ottinger, Mrs. Neva Ottinger, Bobby Turner, Mrs. Bobby Turner, Joan Floyd, Glenn Floyd, Donald D. Elmore, Mrs. Donald D. Elmore, Mrs. Arlys Burns, Mrs. Warrenne Ludwig, James M. Cundall, Edwinia T. Cundall, Helen S. Diamond, William L. Beale, Mary L. Beal, H.E. Yarbrough, Mrs. H.E. Yarbrough, Mr. Wayne W. Albers, Mrs. Judy B. Albers, Bobby D. Boyer, Ira D. Cantrell, Minnie A. Cantrell, and Doris Strange. The election followed and the Town of Cross Roads was formed on June 11, 1973.

Over the years, the citizens of the Town of Cross Roads have come together to build the Town, annexing Oak Shores East and what is now Hillestone Pointe into the Town’s borders. Back in 1973 and continuing today, the people of Cross Roads work together for the benefit of the community. Cross Roads is listed as the #12 Best Place to Raise a Family in Denton County. *Written by Blanche Dillion*



James M. Cundall
1st Mayor of Town of Cross Roads



Town of Cross Roads
2021



The Visioning Process

Town of Cross Roads Vision 2035 – Building Our Future, Together, is a community visioning project designed to help the Town of Cross Roads position itself for the future, retaining the things that are valued most by the community while considering what we may need to change going forward. The initiative was aimed to define a shared vision for the Town of Cross Roads.

From a strategic planning perspective, Cross Roads Vision 2035 examines the issues that have been identified as having the highest priority within the community. This is linked to local aspirations, values and desires for the future. This process, and the survey results included in this report, enables a clear understanding of what people might be looking for in the Town of Cross Roads in 2035 and beyond. Cross Roads Vision 2035 has represented an opportunity for all citizens to have a say, and contribute to create the shared future vision.

This community conversation, started in February 2021, helped us to identify clear, positive directions for the future and involve local organizations and citizens in making them happen. There were 536 unique community members (approx. 31% of the 2020 population) that participated in this visioning project, culminating in the creation of this ***Town of Cross Roads Vision 2035 - Building Our Future, Together Report***.

The Town of Cross Roads Vision 2035 - Building Our Future, Together initiative worked with local residents, organizations and businesses to explore:

- What is unique and important about living in Cross Roads?
- What currently exist that needs to be preserved for future generations?
- Where is there opportunity or need to evolve and change?

The engagement portion of this important planning process ran from March – August 2021, and gathered significant community input, which is summarized in this report. This extensive community engagement and input was obtained in order to ascertain the what, where and how this community will reach it's full potential.

Through numerous meetings both in person and via Zoom working with the Town of Cross Roads citizens, the final language of the Town's Visioning statement was developed. Throughout this project Greater Yield worked with the Town Council, Municipal Development District (MDD), Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, Planning and Zoning Commission, Cross Roads Police Department and the Cross Roads Town Administrator and Staff to develop the Mission and Core Values for each of these critical town government groups.



Visioning Methodology and Process

The Town of Cross Roads visioning process asked what kind of Town its citizens would like to see in 2035 and how sustainability can be a part of that vision. Because it can take years to successfully implement a plan or vision in order for it to be successful, the Town must start looking ahead towards 2035 now, if the vision is to be realized.

The Town of Cross Roads Vision 2035 is a long-term strategic framework that helps our community understand and guide the important decision-making that will impact Cross Road's future. This framework lays out the key desires, wants and challenges identified by your community, which you need to be focusing your attention and resources on, over the coming years.

The following report presents this vision.

"Residents of Cross Roads are engaged in their community and cherish the environment and natural beauty that surrounds them. Such values are clearly reflected in their vision for preserving and enhancing the small town feel they all embrace."
Debbie Womack



Town of Cross Roads – Vision 2035 Vision, Mission and Core Values

“Building Our Future, Together”

VISION STATEMENT

The Town of Cross Roads is a thriving community built on small-town country charm that is committed to an excellent quality of life for our community, citizens, businesses and visitors. We seek sustainable growth that protects our natural and historic resources, while preserving our values, qualities and culture. A strong and active multi-generational population enjoys its spirit of community.

MISSION STATEMENT

To maintain the friendly, approachable, small-town nature of our Town through effective local leadership, fiscal responsibility and efficient management. Through these actions we will create policies that produce a safe and vibrant community where residents delight in living, participating and welcoming guests.

CORE VALUES

Integrity First. We will conduct ourselves at all times in a manner that is ethical, legal, and professional with an unwavering commitment to honesty, fairness and respectfulness.

Visionary Leadership and Planning. We believe that the very essence of leadership is to be visionary and plan for the future.

Innovative Stewardship. We will challenge the status quo with regard to the way public services are designed, financed, and delivered to the citizens of Cross Roads and we will manage our community resources with the present and future generations in mind.

Teamwork with a Purpose. We function as a team and in partnership with the Town staff and essential service providers, who are dedicated to creating a superior work environment and are committed to delivery exceptional services to the citizens, residents and stakeholders of Cross Roads.

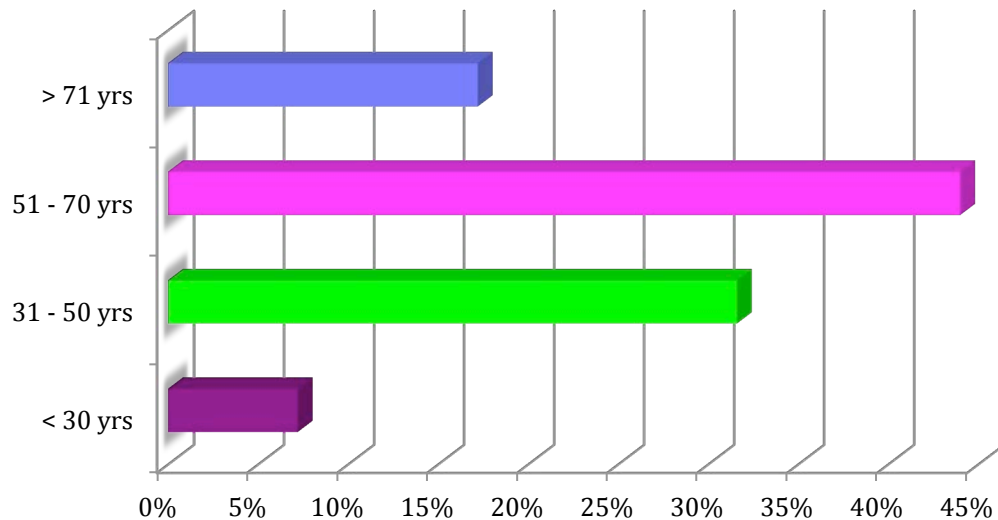
Transparency in All Decisions. The process by which deliberations are initiated, decisions are made and actions are taken will always be done with commitment to full transparency.



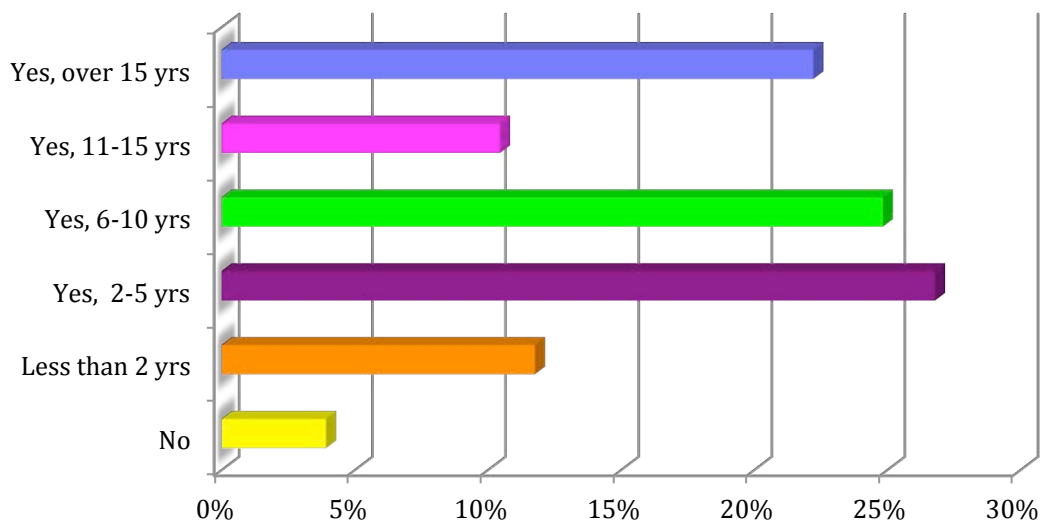
Demographics of Survey Participants

The information provided in these categories is based on the number of participants that responded to each question. Based on the 536 surveys submitted, 386 completed the demographics questionnaire. These charts are based on those 386 or approximately 72% of the participants.

What is your age group?

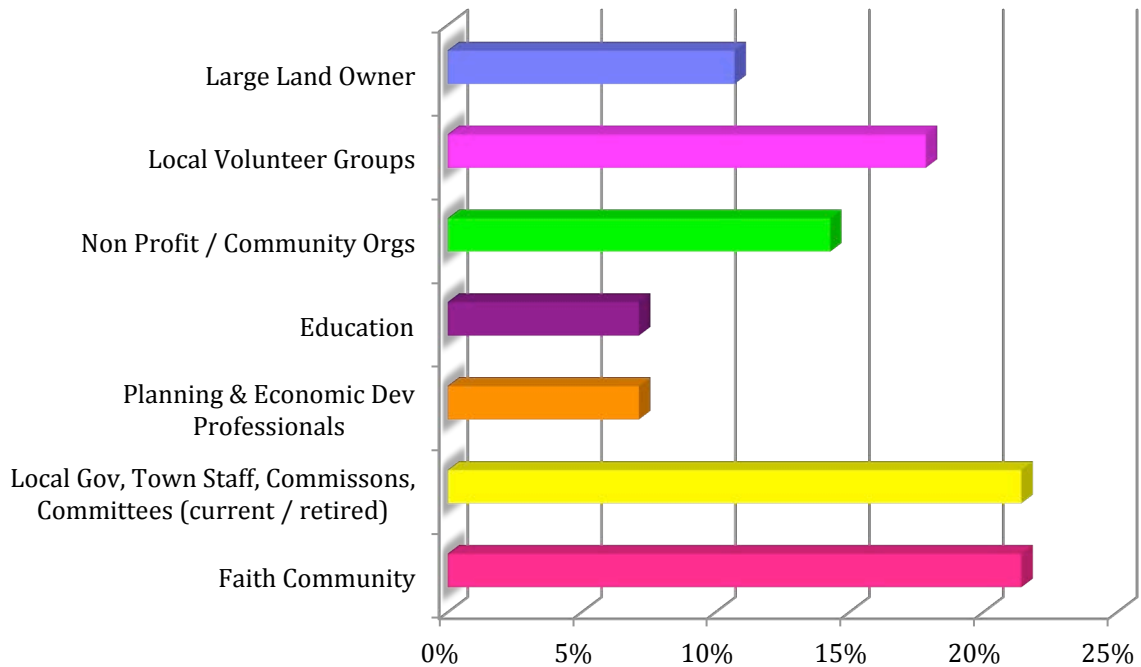


How long have you lived in Cross Roads?

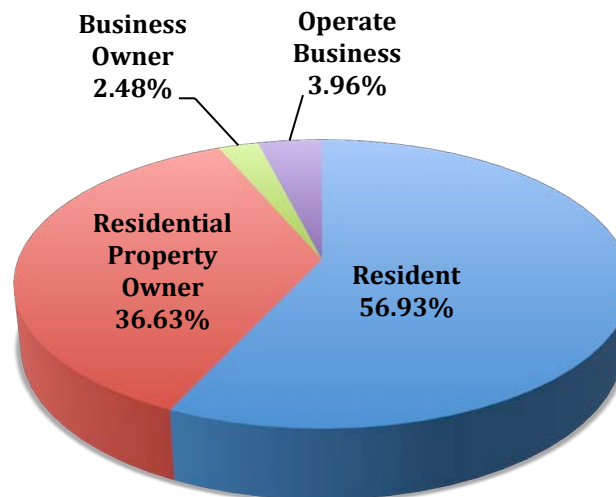




Are you affiliated with any community stakeholder groups? This section allows for multiple choices to apply.



Resident / Residential Property Owner / Operate Business / Business Owner





2020 Census Data on Cultural / Race Demographic

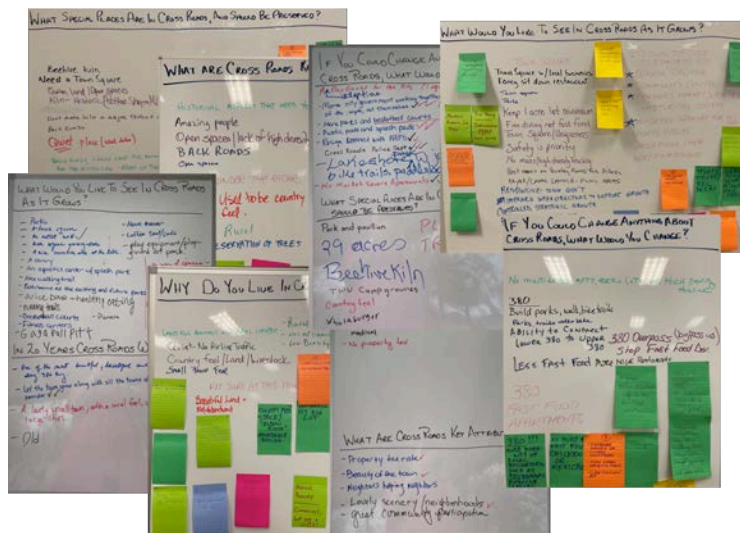


Census	Population
2020	1744
White	68.46%
Hispanic / Latino	13.82%
African American	8.03%
Native American	0.52%
Asian	2.69%
Other	0.63%
2 or more races	5.85%





The following section outlines the responses received from the paper, zoom and digital versions of the survey and meetings, which have been combined and are presented as overall results. This report outlines a vision for Cross Roads that reflects the values and priorities of the community. We asked what people value most about Cross Roads today, and what thing might need to change, or need to be considered in the future.



It should be noted that, while a total of 536 surveys were submitted, 509 were fully completed, and the remainder were partially complete; therefore the results for each question are based on the proportion of people who answered the specific question. Any answers/comments that were provided but did not address the specific question were not included in this summary.

These are some of the terms people used to describe their vision for the future of Cross Roads, and in many cases, what they value today as well.





Some of the **Key Themes** that emerged:

What makes the Town of Cross Roads special?

Key Themes	Sample Quotes
Small Town feel (size, character, quiet, safety/security)	"That friendly neighborhood feeling" "Small Town with a big heart!" "It's a peaceful and quite place" "Safe friendly small-Town character" "Slower pace than city life."
Caring, accepting, close-knit, supportive community	"The people" "It's a friendly, family-oriented community" "We are all connected" "Neighbor caring for neighbor community"
Access to nature and outdoor recreation in a beautiful location (lake, open spaces, parks, views, designated wilderness areas)	"Trees, wildlife, lake views" "Access to parks and the great outdoors" "Lots of open spaces and nice back roads" "Great lake views"
Activities (Park, community gathering events)	"Family, farmers market, food, fair, fun, friends" "Short distance to many necessities" "Community park" "Town events and gatherings are back!"
Location, proximity, and rural living with urban conveniences	"A unique blend of nature, ranches and living" "Being able to live on acreage and commute to work" "Close to almost everything you need" "Close conveniences in small Town" "It's quiet and everything close"



What do you want the future of Cross Roads to be?

Key Themes	Sample Quotes
Inclusive, welcoming, caring community for all	"A city that cares for all." "A place for everyone" "Community like family" "Caring community for our senior citizens"
Small-town feel	"Maintain hometown feel" "Charming little Town connected to nature" "Close-knit, small, original, clean, humble"
Safe community	"Safe permanent home for our family" "Safe place for families and continued commitment to community" "A safe place to raise our family" "A collaboration between law enforcement and the community"
Fun activities, culture, and community events, spaces, and festivals	"Full of opportunity for entertainment" "Public cultural and musical events and celebrations" "Art and recreational hub" "Community events throughout the year"
Parks, recreation opportunities, access to nature, sustainability, and environmental stewardship	"More green spaces" "Green, safe, welcoming, and fun" "Environmentally conscious and preserving" "More outdoor attractions to get people outdoors. More parks." "Splash spray park for summer."
Family-oriented	"State of the art parks for kids" "Thriving recreational family-centered community" "More stuff for young people, especially teens" "A place for family active lifestyles"
More restaurants, shops, and local businesses / support for small and local business	"A better variety of stores and restaurants" "A bustling Town full of options" "Small business-oriented" "More local businesses, events, restaurants" "Fine dining, water features and gazebo for special events"



What additional thoughts would you share as we develop a new vision, mission and set of core values for Cross Roads?

Key Themes	Sample Quotes
More restaurants, shops, local businesses, activities, events, and other amenities – particularly downtown and for families and young people	<p>“We need more shops and restaurants and a thriving Town Centre.”</p> <p>“We need a biking pump track and a rock-climbing wall.”</p> <p>“Promote more activities for the community and children.”</p> <p>“I would like more open-air markets all year round.”</p> <p>“Community dinners, dances, game nights”</p> <p>“Teens need safe & friendly places to go – bowling alley, skating rink, or actual events focused on teens/young adults!!”</p> <p>“Have more cultural events.”</p>
Reduce traffic and improve roads	<p>“A way to separate drive-through traffic from local traffic.”</p> <p>“Traffic is a nightmare.”</p> <p>“Consider trying for a 380 by-pass or over-pass so residents don't have to deal with the horrible traffic created by the passer-throughs.”</p> <p>“Need side roads connected so residents do not have to be in the middle of the 380 nightmare.”</p>
Control development to help traffic, protect nature, and keep town character	<p>“Maintain the historic look and feel. Save the trees.”</p> <p>“Do not lose the small-Town feel.”</p> <p>“Consider the importance of our rural communities and preserve them.”</p> <p>“Value healthy growth. What can our environment, streets, and public resources handle in a healthy way?”</p>
Parks, recreation opportunities, access to nature, environmental stewardship, more walking and biking trails	<p>“Preserve forests and natural habitats.”</p> <p>“Maintain ranches and green spaces.”</p> <p>“Just take care of the open spaces. They are great now, just keep it up!”</p> <p>“Sidewalks/bike trails would help my family be more active and increase our time together in Town and not going elsewhere .”</p>
Inclusive, welcoming, caring community for all	<p>“I want myself and others to feel safe to be unapologetically themselves.”</p> <p>“Love, inclusivity, fun!”</p> <p>“We need more support for our senior community, housing, day care, services.”</p>



Cross Roads community members who were involved in the Vision 2035 process appreciate and want....

- **Community:** A friendly, close-knit, supportive, welcoming, and inclusive community
- **Parks:** Improved and well-maintained parks, trails, and open spaces to gather and recreate
- **Nature:** Access to healthy and protected natural areas and waterways
- **A small-Town feel:** To maintain Cross Roads small-town character
- **Small businesses:** Thriving small and local businesses – particularly in a Town Square / Town Centre environment
- **Amenities and activities:** Mores shops, upscale fine dining restaurants, and entertainment
- **A family-friendly Town:** More activities and spaces for families and youth
- **Safety:** To feel safe and not worry about crime or emergencies
- **Calm and quite:** A sense of calm and quiet in the community
- **Easier driving:** Less traffic, well-maintained roads, and slower speed limits

In the open-ended part of these questions, participants added additional information about the things that they would like to see in the future of Cross Roads. The key themes are the following:

- More activities and places to gather, especially for families and youth. Suggestions included a Town Centre / Town Square (with higher end retail, niche shopping, local shop and a water feature with outdoor access and higher end dining spots), community events at local parks, art and culture, a year-long farmer's market, music festivals, recreational center for adults, kids and families, a bowling alley, community swimming pool or splash pool, Gaga Ball Pit, development around the lake that adds water-sport activities, rentals and picnic areas.
- Improved infrastructure for people who drive, walk, hike and bike. Suggestions are to leave the older roads (Pottershop, Mill Creek, Tipps, and Historic Roads) alone. Add more hiking, biking and walking trails and parks for those who want to have safe and friendly outdoors access within the community.
- More amenities. Suggestions include once again a Town Centre / Town Square that would have a variety of restaurants (including healthy foods, juice bars, coffee shop café, upscale fine dining, winery) and niche small retailers. More parks that are family-friendly and pet-friendly (with dog park and play ground equipment), higher end and organic grocers, and a downtown that makes it a destination-worthy location.



Nature, open spaces, footpaths and trails have been an integral part of America's landscape. Emphasis was placed on the value of the natural environment, preservation of existing natural areas. An overwhelming number of the community wants to add more parks, trails and retain as much open space as possible to provide even more social, ecological and economic benefits to the community. Natural spaces along lake protect lake quality and support fish and wildlife.

Trails along these open spaces will connect young and old to lakes, natural resources and wildlife. Conserving quality open space so that as the community continues to develop and people can enjoy the outdoors is a priority for Cross Roads citizens. Residents want a community where people, throughout their lifespans, are safe, physically active and improve their mental and physical health by spending time outdoors and with each other. One additional benefit of community trails and greenways are the close to home and accessible recreational opportunities they provide.

- Trails make communities better places to live by preserving and creating open spaces for recreation.
- Trails and greenways provide new opportunities for outdoor recreation and non-motorized transportation.
- Trails also provide a unique facility to serve a diverse population of a community that may otherwise have limited opportunities to access natural areas due to financial or transportation constraints.
- Trails provide affordable exercise and recreational opportunities within the community.



Residents also want more parks around the Town where their children can enjoy playing. They want the parks to be interactive and adaptive and also want included splash / minimum water parks. Adaptive parks provide accommodations for children and adults with different abilities. Nearly 1 in 5 people in the US have a disability. Whether a child has cognitive issues, mobility challenges, or both, the design of most urban play areas inadvertently excludes a significant portion of the population playgrounds were built to serve. City officials around the country are rethinking what an accessible playground looks like and how parks can serve the full range of needs found in a community. They also want to ensure that they will have restrooms and water fountains for all visitors. As families continue to move into Cross Roads there are going to be more and more need for these types of amenities.

The park is no longer a place of physical activity just for the kids. It is an activity that the entire family can take part in. These outdoor gyms are often placed in close vicinity to the kids' playground, so parents can keep an eye out while accomplishing a quick workout. As busy as we are, most of us will admit that fitness can fall off the radar, so being able to multitask increases the likelihood of both children and parents getting their 30 minutes of exercise (or more!) in for the day. In addition, parents are showing children that fitness and exercise are important at every age.

All of these ideas for the future also bring in visitors from surrounding areas who do not have access to such amenities. The benefit is if it's drawing people to the area, then it's going to bring benefits. The obvious beneficiaries of tourism and recreation are the Town and business within the Town. These items help to increase property values, make the Town an even more attractive place to live, help to reduce medical cost, boost spending at local businesses and most important, increases tax revenues.





It was also noted, along with recognition that the Town needs to plan for its aging community as well. Cross Roads population is aging, which is a Macro Trend throughout the nation. Silver Tsunami is the name given to this trend. The U.S. population is aging and by 2030 nearly one-fifth of the population will be 65 years or older. People are living longer and having fewer children, resulting in more need for care but fewer family options.

Providing for the aging population comes with unique challenges and opportunities. Housing is an issue that will be confronted by a large majority of this generation. The choices they currently have in Cross Roads are very few. Options can be scarce as there are no multi-family apartments or independent or assisted living facilities leaving many long time residents with no choice but to leave the home and community they have lived in for many years and go elsewhere.

Exercise is a contributing factor to a longer life and extremely important to this population. Incorporating physical activity into daily life is an important part of ensuring the continued health of the aging population. Easy access to parks and recreational facilities such as gyms and community centers make residents more likely to exercise. Since these locations often double as meeting places, they create a sense of community.

Cross Roads residents would also like to see programs that provide opportunities for people of all ages to interact with each other, such as Community Centers, Recreation Centers, Senior Center, Public Markets, Farmers Markets, Library, Parks and other public spaces.





Residents stated, as their number 1 goal, that they want a Town Centre/Town Square with upscale storefronts, restaurants and businesses. The walkability of a Town Centre and a waterfront/river is something that people want and it helps to maintain their strong sense of community and “small-town atmosphere with the best of city life close by. A greater focus was put on activities and facilities for children and youth in and around this type of design. Keeping a sense of place, identity and culture can be challenging in a growing and changing community. Cross Roads residents are looking for entertainment and activities that provide the ability for them to stay close to home and be able to go out for a nice, romantic dinner, shopping, date night, family events, live performances such as music or drama, outdoor movies, activities for kids of all ages that would be a part of the identity of the Town Centre/Town Square. This type of environment would foster healthy social settings and provide a feeling of familiarity and security so that citizens want to be it in those spaces throughout the year.

People desire places that celebrate nature, the arts and creativity to create that sense of community. However, some also expressed concern that the size of new housing, height of high-rises and the introduction of concrete building forms are detracting from this small-town feel. Finding a balanced way to accommodate growth and maintain the character of the community will be a key challenge to address.

There are a number of reasons for Town’s to have a Town Square / Town Centre. Some the key items are:

Beauty. A well-designed Town Square gives residents and visitors a reason to enjoy the “downtown” and new “streetscape”.

Walkability. Successful downtowns are walkable. Improved walkability helps local businesses attract more customers and achieve greater success.

Focal Point. Small towns and neighborhoods need a center and focal point to attract more shoppers, walkers, families with children, and seniors to the downtown. It is not a wasted investment.

Pride. Town Squares honor their unique identity as a beautiful small Town that is surrounded by trees and open space and is proud of its history, location, and family-friendly atmosphere.

Community. Community gatherings, special events, a relocated farmer’s market, summer concerts and outdoor movies all can happen at a Town Square. These events bring life to the downtown and increase business for merchants.

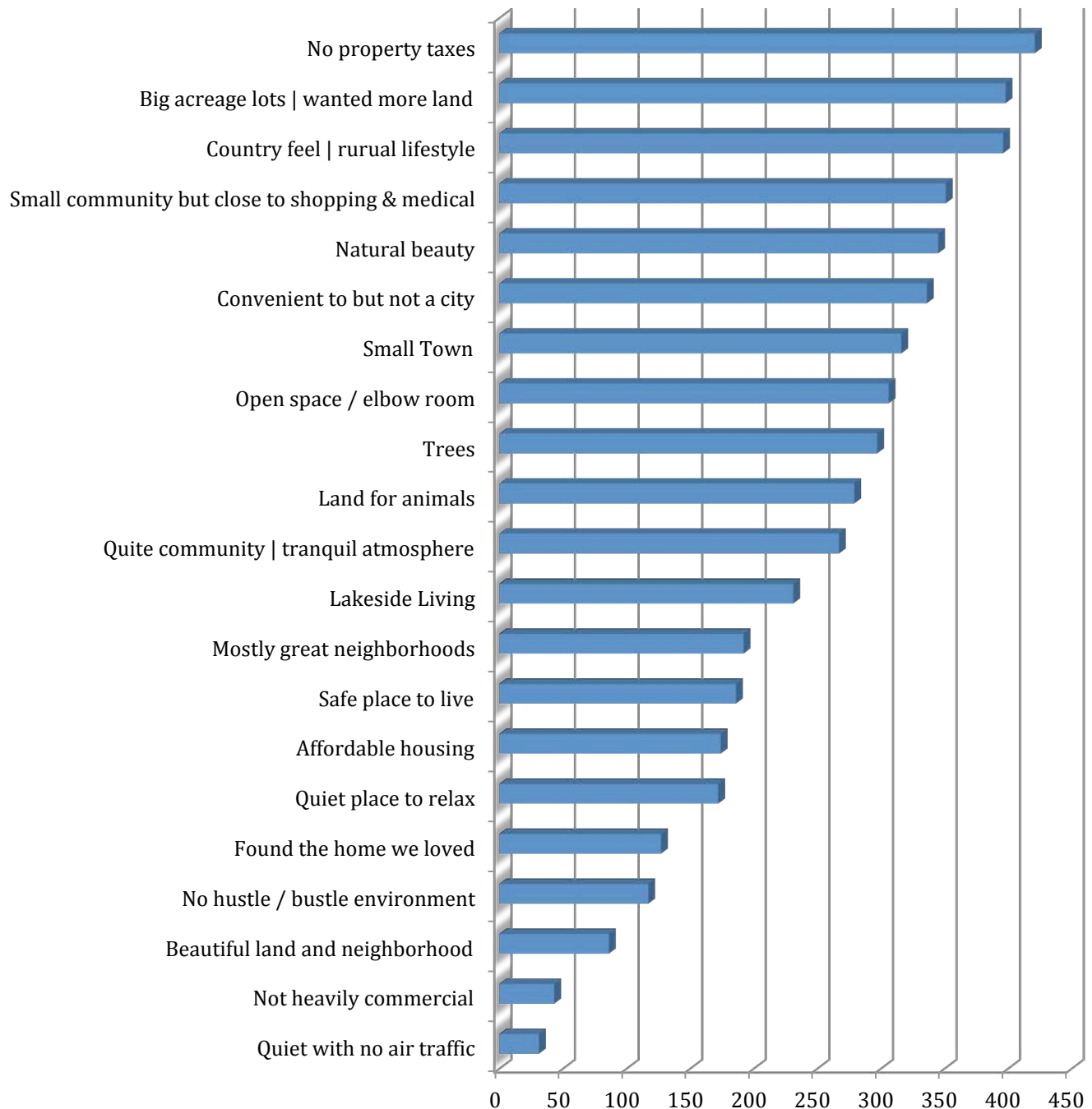
Health. A Town Square benefits health and safety. Shoppers and workers, children, and seniors will have more reasons to walk and get exercise. Don’t count out brownfield revitalization in your plans.





Survey Question 1

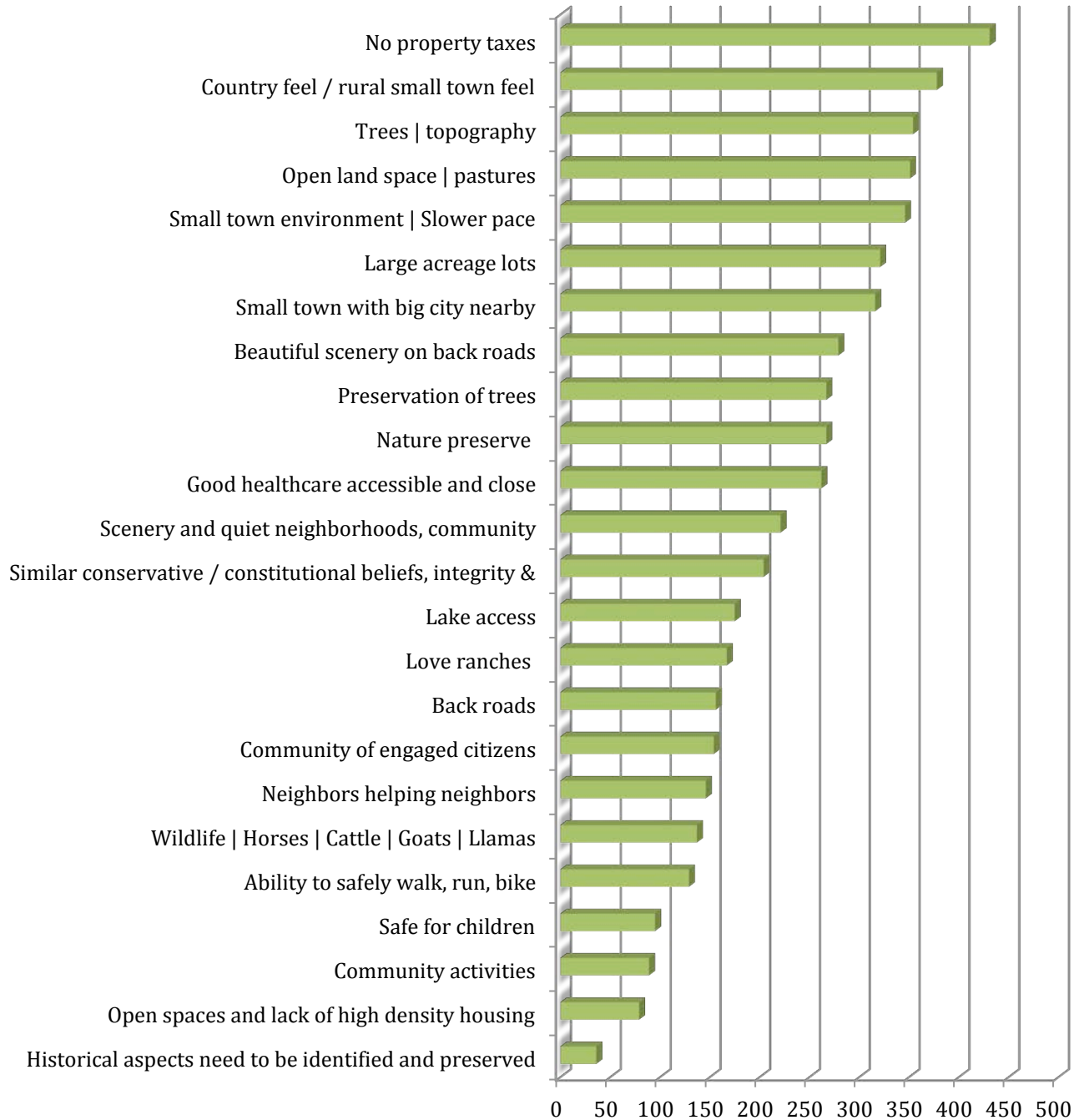
Why do you live in Cross Roads?





Survey Question 2

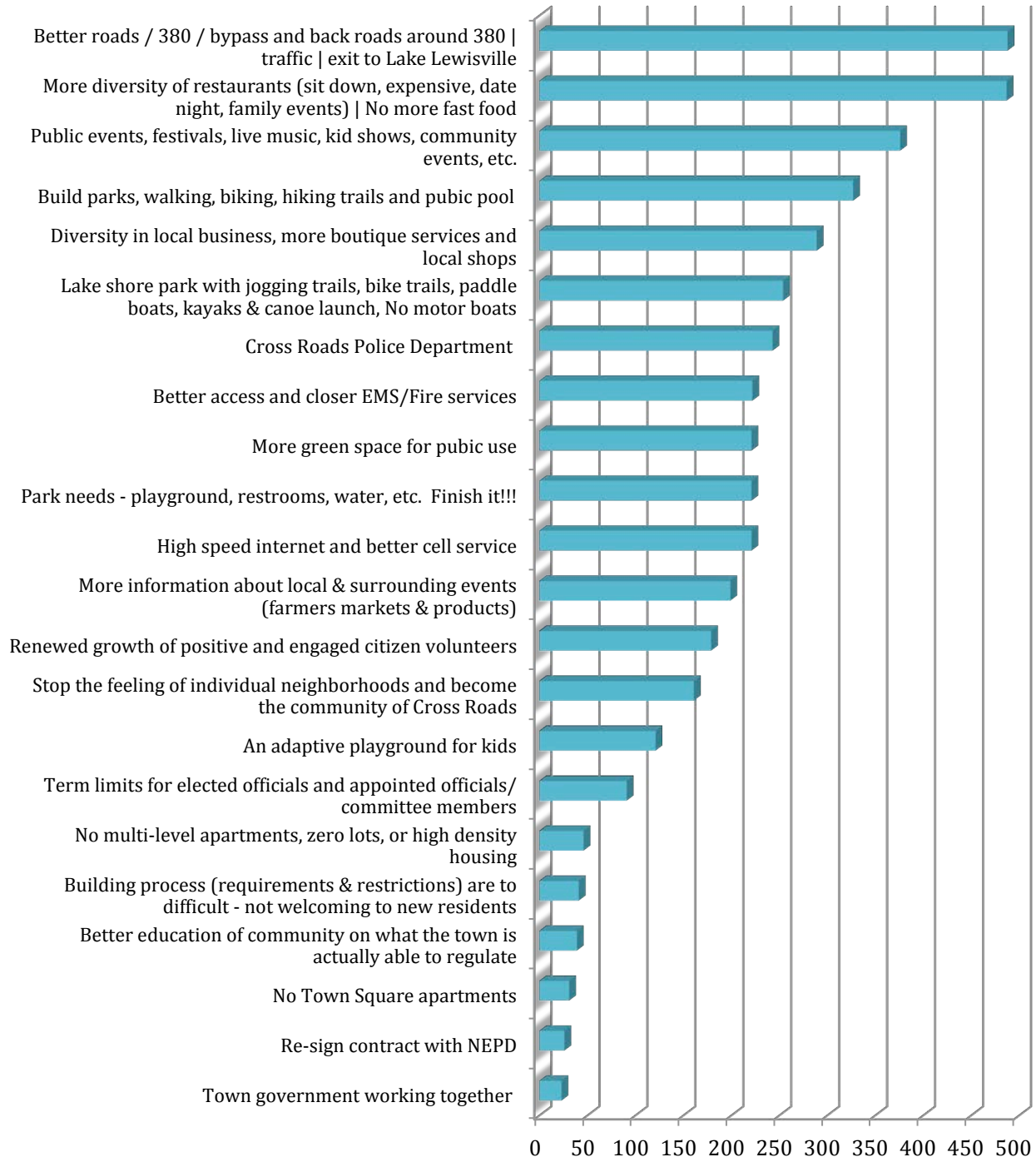
What are Cross Roads Key Attributes?





Survey Question 3

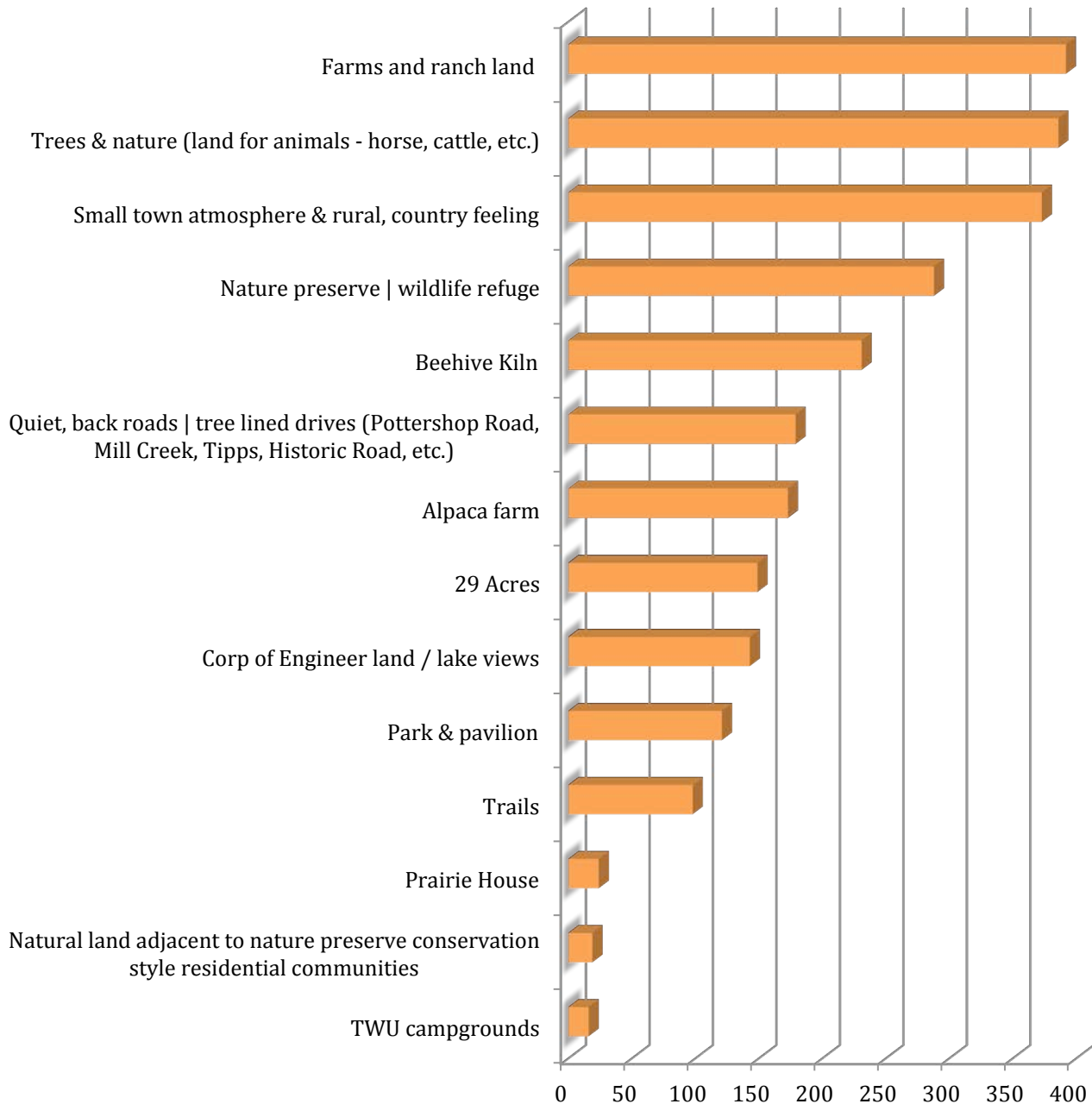
If you could change anything about Cross Roads, what would you change?





Survey Question 4

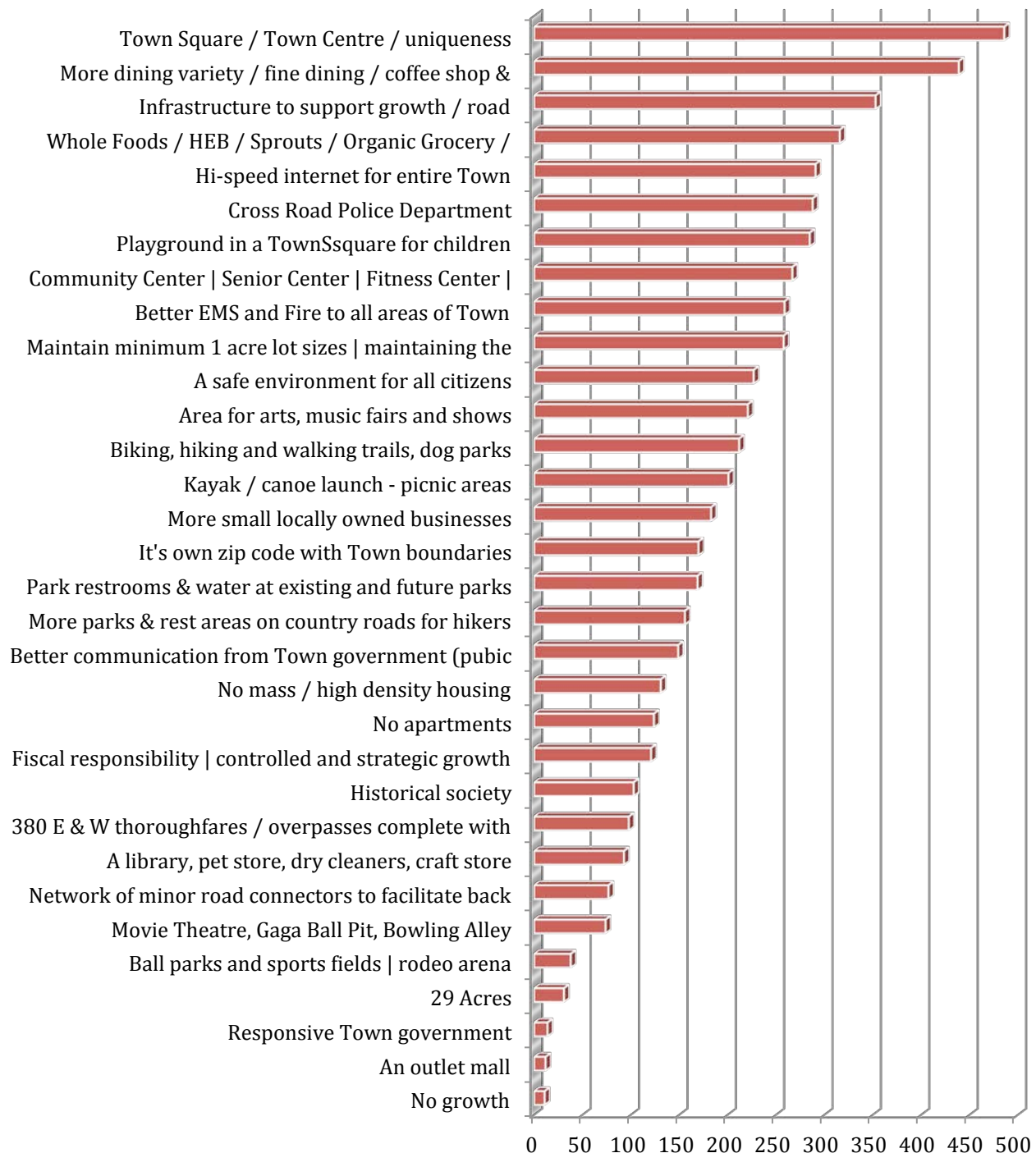
What special places are in Cross Roads and should be preserved?





Survey Question 5

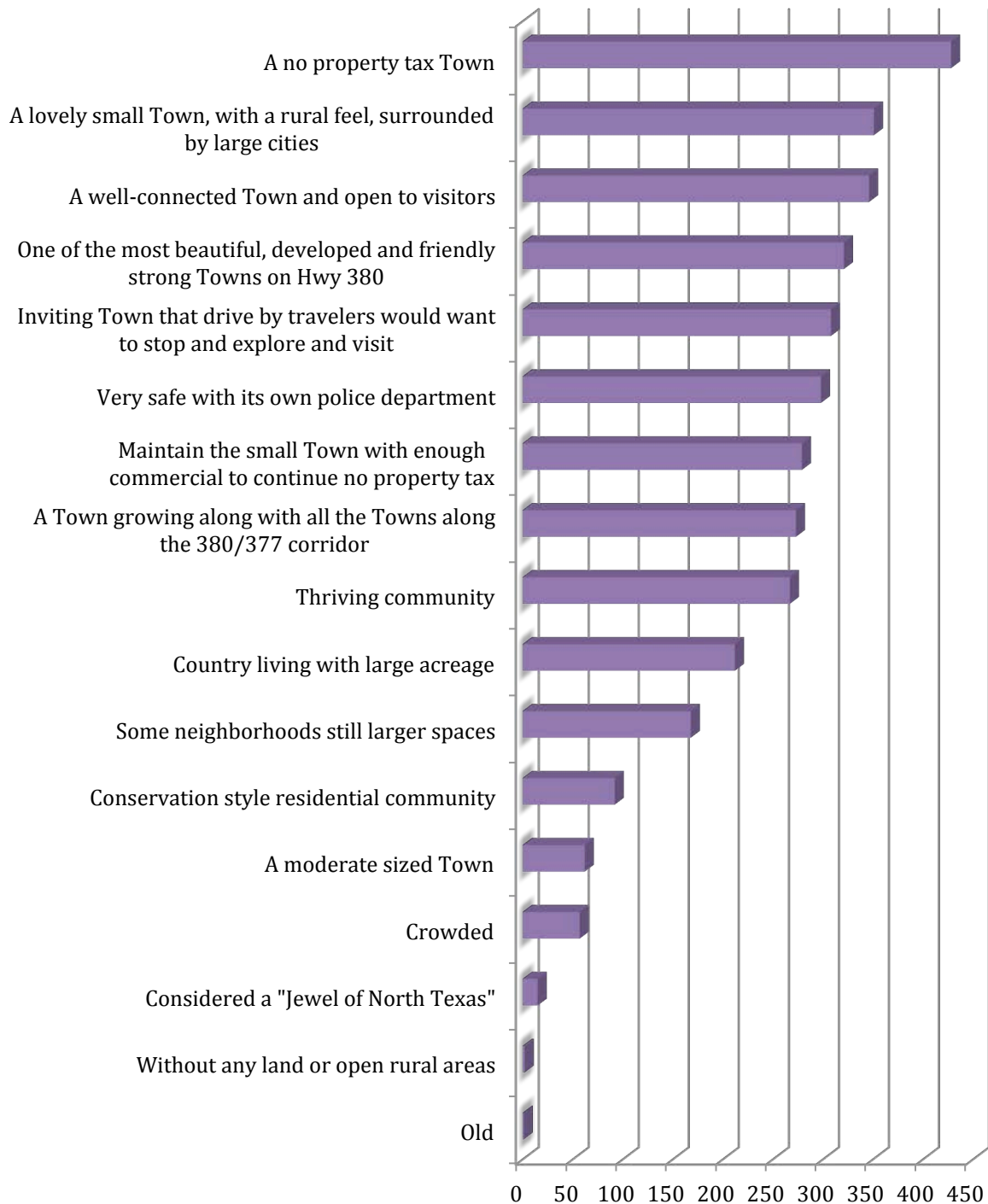
What would you like to see in Cross Roads as it grows?





Survey Question 6

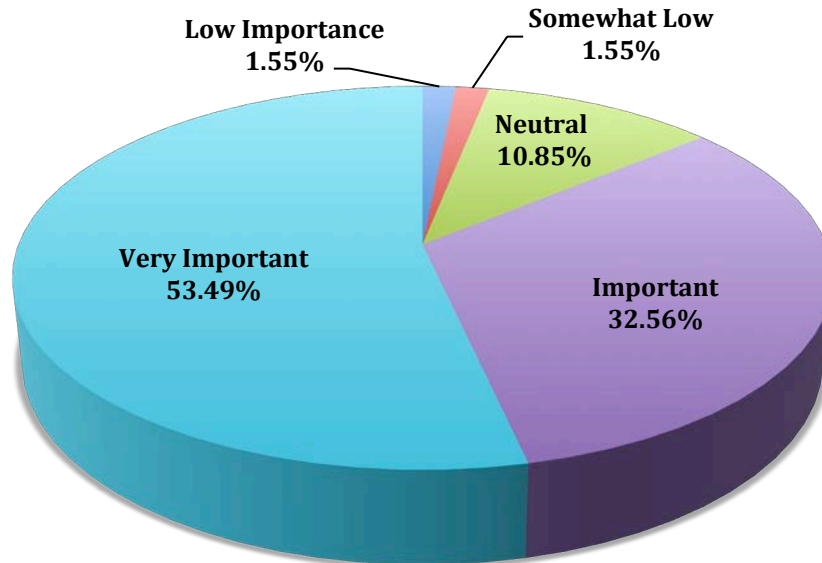
In 20 years Cross Roads will be....





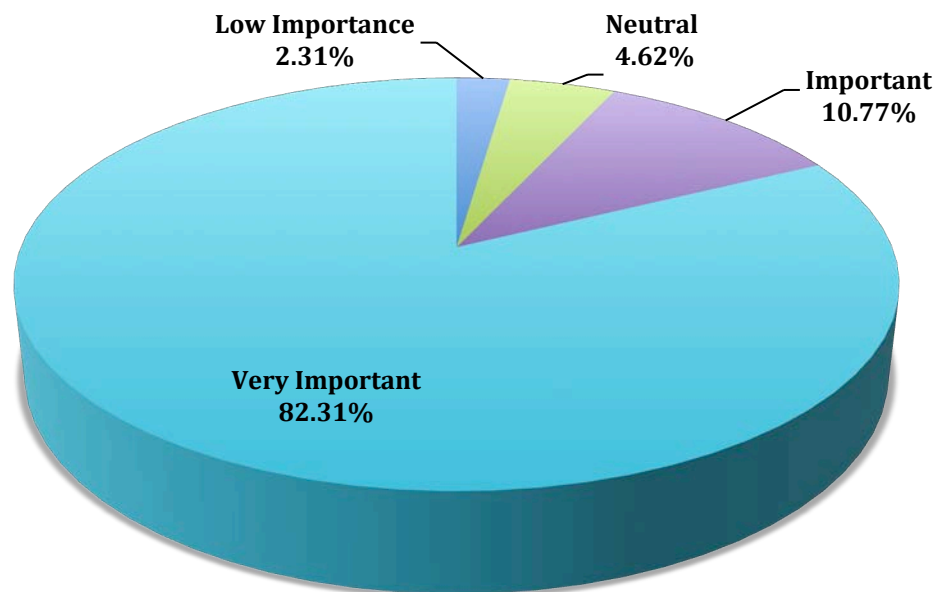
Survey Question 7

Conservation of Natural Habitats, Trees and Open Spaces



Survey Question 8

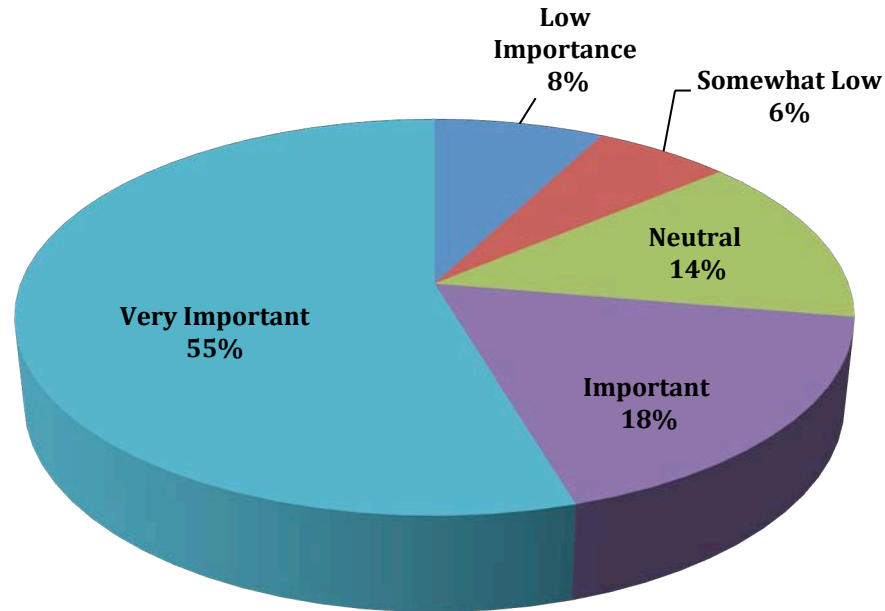
Preserve the Town's No Property Tax status





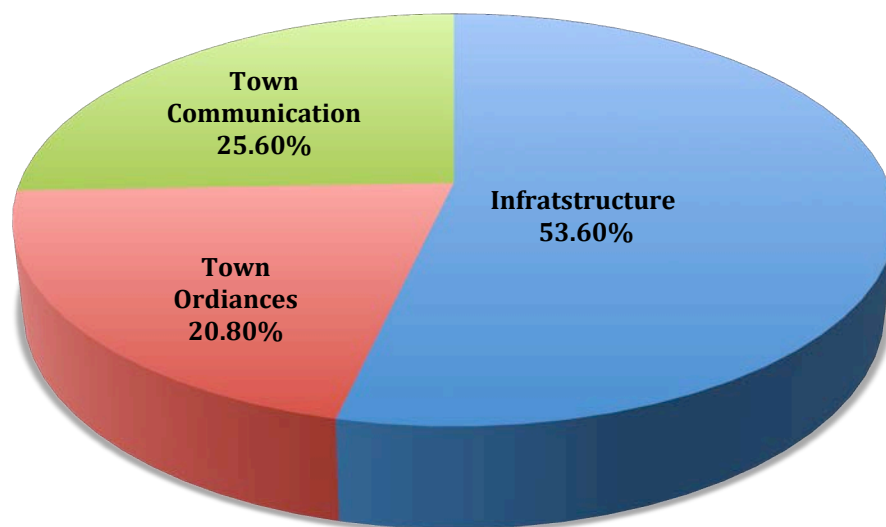
Survey Question 9

Promote residential development of estate lots 1-acre or larger



Survey Question 10

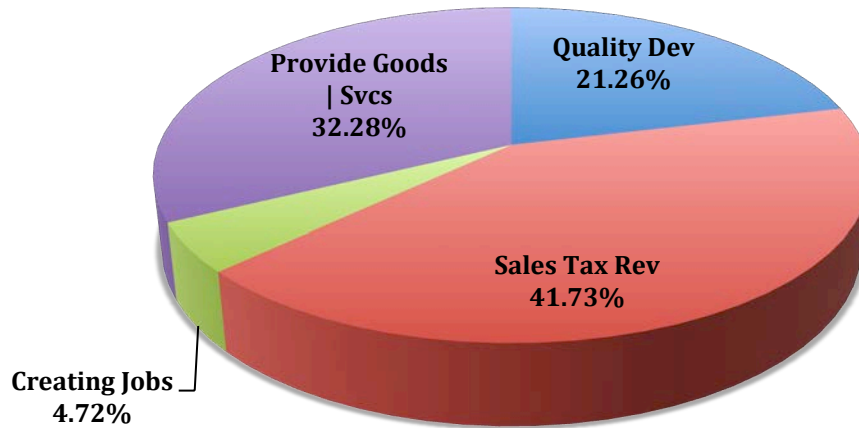
What do you think Cross Roads must focus on to attract quality businesses?





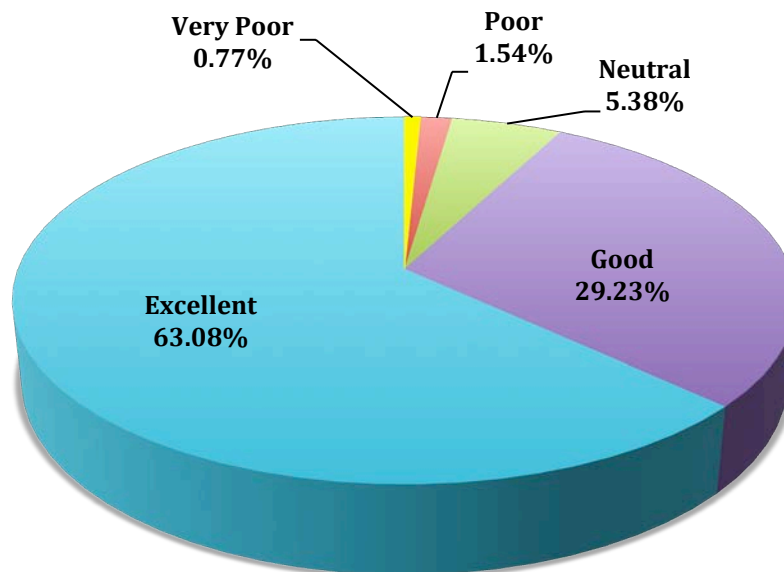
Survey Question 11

What results do you most desire from bringing new business to Cross Roads?



Survey Question 12

Quality of Life





Survey Question – Current View

What actions has Cross Roads taken ***that have improved your outlook*** for the Town?

The fact that this survey has been sent shows me that you care about the people of Cross Roads and want to make it better

Fixing roads and adding stoplights where necessary

Information on developments.

Preserved trees and require 1 acre minimum property for homeowners.

Not allowing unnecessary residential road improvements that would increase traffic and ruin the Town's charm.

The protection of trees and the one-acre lot minimum are good steps but we need more.

Our own police department will be a positive change.

Separate from NEPD and manage our own destiny

Preserved no Town tax.

Open government, posting agenda packets

Mayor and Council activities more transparent; communication from Town is stronger and transparent.

Design is more upscale.

More professional communication practices

Created a Park Board

New Mayor and Town administrator great change

Community market has been a wonderful addition that last few years and keeps that small Town feel alive

Administration that provides citizen input and transparency.

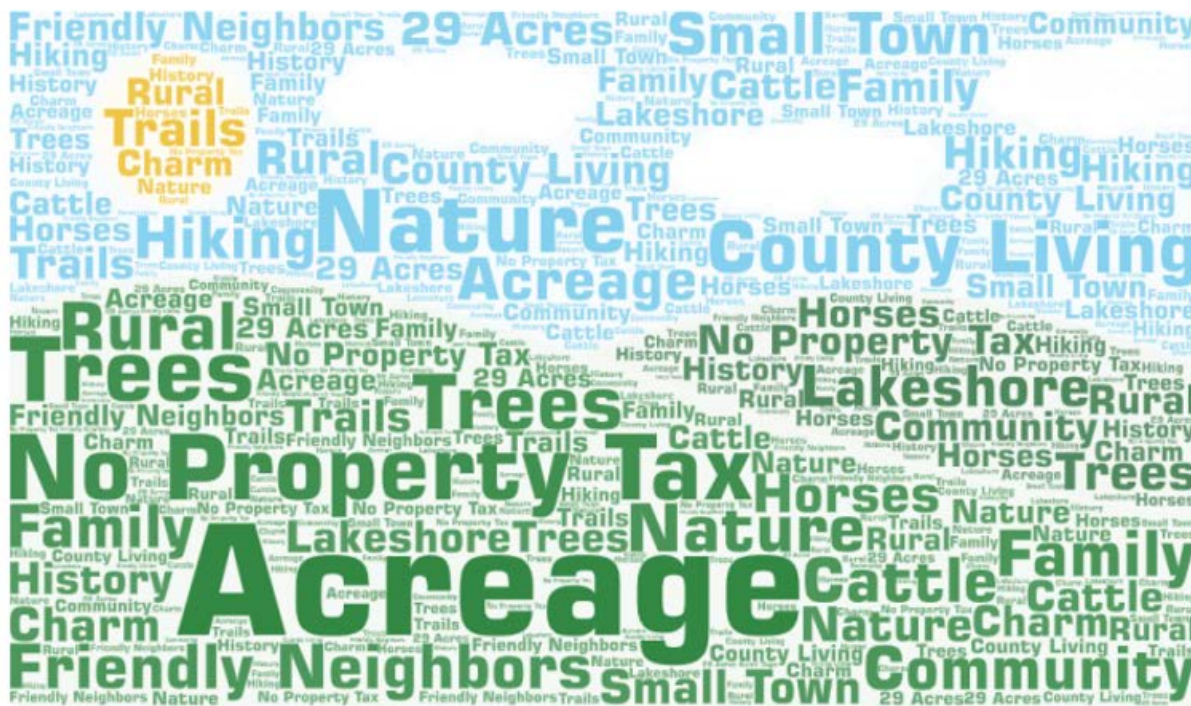
Much better communication from Town government to residents but could still improve

Cleanup Day

Tree conservation



Long range planning is better





TOWN OF CROSS ROADS - MISSION AND CORE VALUES

TOWN COUNCIL

MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

STAFF & MUNICIPLE COURT

CROSS ROADS POLICE DEPARTMENT

LITTLE ELM FIRE DEPARTMENT



Town of Cross Roads

Town Council

“One Town, One Team, One Council”

Our Mission:

Through responsible leadership, our mission as members of the Cross Roads Town Council is to enrich the quality of life for all our citizens. To build an attractive, inviting and secure community.

We pledge to work in partnership with our residents to encourage, lead and advocate for community pride, develop a diversified economy, and to preserve and enhance the natural beauty of our environment.

We will work to determine the local and regional needs of the citizens and stakeholders by providing a fair and balanced government that is proactive in responding to the community.

Building our Future Together.

Our Core Values:

Guiding Principle

At all times, and in all interactions, the Town Council will work to find common ground in the best interest of the citizens and stakeholders. Cross Roads Town Council Core Values are underpinned by our shared belief – **“One Town, One Team, One Council”**.

Ethics, Integrity and Professionalism

We believe that ethics, integrity, and professionalism are the foundation blocks of public trust and confidence and that all meaningful relationships are built on these values. We will safeguard our public trust through honest business practices and open communication. Our credibility with the public depends on our strong ethical stewardship of all resources.

Fiscal Responsibility & Quality Delivery of Service

We believe that service to the public is our reason for being and strive to deliver quality services in a highly professional manner. Fiscal responsibility and the prudent stewardship of public funds and town assets is essential if residents are to have confidence in government.



Visionary Leadership and Planning

We believe that the very essence of leadership is to be responsive to current goals and needs, and visionary in planning for the future. We strive to uphold the highest work ethic, treat everyone fairly, empower people to do their best, promote continuous improvement, foster teamwork, communicate openly and respectfully so as to achieve trust and accountability throughout our community.

Open, Honest, and Respectful Communication

We believe that open, honest, and respectful communication is essential for an informed and involved citizenry and to foster a positive environment for those interacting with our town.

Cooperation, Collaboration and Teamwork

We will promote transparent engagement with citizens and stakeholders and expect our managers and consultants to understand the needs and values of our community. We will strive to ensure that our actions are inclusive and reflective of the diverse community of which we desire to be. We believe that the public is best served when all work cooperatively.

Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability

We believe in protecting our unique natural environment and the habitat it provides while balancing our development opportunities. We aspire to maintain and preserve our country style of living while preserving our municipal assets.



Town of Cross Roads

Municipal Development District

“Cross Roads – Open for Business”

Our Mission:

The mission of the Cross Roads Municipal Development District is to continue to grow the tax base by attracting new business, creating a family-oriented, safe town environment while preserving our small town country living, making the community a better place to do business, live and work.

Cross Roads Municipal Development District promotes the retention, and expansion of existing business for a sustainable economy leading to job creation. We partner with elected officials, administration officials, other Town committees, and Towns people to achieve this goal.

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Our Core Values:

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Maintain strategic, operational and financial plans to support the anticipated increase in businesses providing employment and residential growth while maintaining Cross Roads small Town atmosphere. We believe in an honest and transparent government and are dedicated to the highest ideals of integrity, fairness and openness in partnering with our citizens, elected officials, administration officials, and other Town committees and boards, to facilitate the growth of Cross Roads.

Business Retention and Development

Encourage the development and retention of unique and small businesses that lend character to our Town and are an attraction while helping create a diverse economy in Cross Roads. The continued support of the Town’s retail shopping areas is critical while working to create a vibrant town center is essential for the continued financial health of our community.

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Position as a Destination

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Business, Family and Retirement Friendly

Work to nurture Cross Roads and its role as a desirable location for business, family and retirement populations, and to provide encouragement that supports and serves these populations.



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Building our Future Together.

Our Core Values:

Collaboration – We engage with our citizens, business leaders, staff and other agencies in planning to best serve the public good and encourage the community to be involved in the future plans for Cross Roads.

Excellence - We strive for excellence in all we do. We provide open and honest communications and recognize the importance of trust, commitment and authenticity. We continuously work to improve our performance and service as a commission while also working to ensure the Town of Cross Roads ordinances and planning and zoning requirements are reviewed and current.

Respect - We support an objective process that considers all points of view. We rely on facts. We make informed decisions based on a shared understanding of the facts, context, and research.



Town of Cross Roads

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

“Working to enrich our community by creating extraordinary recreational experiences”

Our Mission:

The Town of Cross Roads Parks & Recreation Board’s mission is to enhance the quality of life by providing for safe, well-maintained parks and public places, preserving historic resources and strengthening the bonds of community through programs and special events.

We create opportunities for renewal, growth, and enrichment, while actively caring for and protecting our urban forest to create a beautiful, livable town for the benefit of a community of people who live, work and visit the Town of Cross Roads.

These services will be facilitated and delivered through passionate, professional and proactive response to community interests and identified values.

Building our Future Together.

Our Core Values:

Core values are internal beliefs and qualities treasured by the community. These shared beliefs form a philosophy that guide the Town’s parks and recreation services.

Community Engagement - We work collaboratively to include and engage the full diversity of our community through community events and programs.

Family-Friendliness – We provide safe environments, clean and beautiful spaces and a welcoming atmosphere accessible to all.

Conservation & Stewardship - We responsibly manage and care for our natural and physical resources for current and future generations.

Health & Wellness – We provide environments for the promotion of mental and physical health, activity and relaxation.



Town of Cross Roads

Administrative Staff

“It All Starts Here, Where Service Meets Integrity.”

Our Mission:

To be effective and responsible stewards of public resources, to wisely and prudently use these resources for the public good, and to be accountable to those who have placed their trust in us.

To serve those around us with passion, being mindful to act in an ethical manner. We are committed to providing our customers with helpful and friendly service. We strive to work with both stakeholders and citizens to see that their goals can be achieved while working within the framework of the regulations adopted by the Town.

Building our Future Together.

Our Core Values:

Fiscally Responsible

We are entrusted with the public funds and we recognize it is a vital responsibility to ensure that the funds are budgeted and expended properly in support of the communities' goals.

Responsive

As public servants we strive to serve the Town of Cross Roads citizens and to exceed expectations. That is and should always be our constant focus. We listen, are empathetic and take appropriate action. We pursue good and timely solutions, and are alert to modifying strategies in response to unintended consequences.

Accountable

We take responsibility for our decisions and actions. We are accountable to our community and to each other so that future generations will have as many opportunities available to them as we do today. We encourage and practice servant leadership.

Respect

We acknowledge the dignity of every employee, citizen, resident, and visitor in our Town. We work actively to eliminate barriers to full participation in community life. We conduct Town business with courtesy, civility, and respect.



Town of Cross Roads

Cross Roads Police Department

“In Partnership With Our Community”

Our Vision:

The **Vision** of the Cross Roads Police Department is to attract and retain highly competent and diverse employees in order to maintain the respect and confidence of the community. Utilizing our core values, the department will continue to adapt within an ever-changing environment, thereby achieving excellence in law enforcement.

Our Mission:

The **Mission** of the Cross Roads Police Department is to serve as guardians of the Cross Roads community by protecting life and property, enforcing the law, detecting and deterring crime, preserving the peace and the rights of all people as guided by the Constitution, of the USA and through collaborative partnerships within the community.

Building our Future Together.

Our Core Values:

The Cross Roads Police Department strives for excellence in law enforcement based upon the following **Core Values**:

Integrity - Behaving ethically with moral principals and guiding trustworthy actions.

Service - Recognizing the needs of the community and responding to those needs to improve community relations and the quality of life.

Teamwork – Collaborating in an impactful way with all our citizens and stakeholders for the betterment of our community.

Accountability – Taking ownership for our actions; being responsible for the outcomes; and a willingness to be transparent, while holding ourselves to the highest standards both on and off duty.

Respect – Acknowledging the need for all individuals to be treated with dignity and understanding.



Town of Little Elm

Little Elm Fire Department

Mission and Values

The mission of the Little Elm Fire Department is to provide service excellence through outstanding pre-hospital care, fire suppression, fire prevention, and superior customer service to the residents and patrons of Little Elm and Cross Roads.

Core Values

Our mission is accomplished through the Town's Core Values of integrity, customer service, efficiency, and innovation. We know as we continue tying our values to our mission that will be a premiere emergency services provider and will imprint our legacy on the fire service and in the community.

Commitment to Excellence

Our commitment to excellence is shown through our dedication to strategic planning and commitment to growth and expansion of resources and personnel. In 2016, the Town of Little Elm earned the prestigious Public Protection ISO (Insurance Services Office) Class One designation through the efforts of the Little Elm Fire Department, Little Elm Water Department and our contracted dispatch services through the Denton County Sheriff's Department.



Little Elm Fire Department



Dear Citizens of Cross Roads,

The Little Elm Fire Department (LEFD) is a fully-paid, professional, fire and emergency medical services organization. LEFD employs 63 sworn members and requires all to be certified as firefighters and paramedics. We currently operate from 3 fire stations, and have a dedicated administrative staff to provide support to our members. With our staffing, equipment, and programs, LEFD has earned the coveted “ISO 1” classification, which allows our residents to receive the best possible homeowner insurance rates and puts our department among an exclusive group of fire departments throughout the United States.

For many years, LEFD has provided assistance to the Town of Cross Roads through the practice of mutual aid. Mutual aid is jargon for “being neighborly” and responding when requested by another fire department. Recently, an agreement was reached which will transform the relationship between the Town of Cross Roads and LEFD. Beginning October 1, 2021, LEFD will officially become your fire department and your new firefighters. As fire chief, I want to assure you that our members will take care of the citizens of Cross Roads with the same compassion and dedication they have for all the other communities we are sworn to protect. It is our mission to provide “superior services” to all we serve and in all we do.

This agreement between the Town of Cross Roads and the Town of Little Elm will have a positive impact on the emergency services LEFD is able to provide in the near future. The revenue received from this contract will make it possible for LEFD to advance our plans of adding an additional fire station with additional firefighters. This planned station will be our fourth, and will be located in the vicinity of Hwy 380 and FM 720. This station’s close proximity to the Town of Cross Roads will result in improved response times on emergency calls. The exact timeline for completion of the new fire station is unknown at this time, but we are exploring all options to expedite the project.

It is our goal to remain continually engaged with the community of Cross Roads. In an effort to accomplish this goal, we will extend our non-emergency programs to the community. An example of such a program is our Citizens Fire Academy (CFA). The CFA is a 10-week program that provides insight for those adults who are curious about the workings of a modern fire department. Graduates are allowed to ride-out with the firefighters and see firsthand the jobs they perform. For the youth, we have the Little Elm Fire Exploring Post. Kids from 14 years to 20 years have the opportunity to attend regular meetings and learn more about the fire service and emergency medical services. Like the CFA, fire explorers are allowed to ride out on a fire engine with the on-duty crew. The goal of the program is to introduce the youth to the fire service and as a possible future career.

LEFD is ready and excited to serve the Cross Roads community. We are appreciative that the elected officials of the Town of Cross Roads selected LEFD to be your fire department. As your firefighters, we also look forward to joining your community. Please feel free to drop by one of our fire stations and say hello. We always enjoy meeting those we serve. To keep up to date on LEFD and the progress of the future fire station, please consider liking our Facebook page. If I can be of assistance, please feel free to reach out as my contact info is listed below.

Stay safe and warm regards,

Paul Rust

Fire Chief

prust@littleelm.org

(214) 975-0424



Take Away and Next Step

The Town of Cross Roads Vision 2035 – Building Our Future Together process has presented an opportunity for the community to come together and explore the longer-term future. The current period of change within Cross Roads represents an important juncture in the community's history and evolution. This is coupled with a more gradual generational shift, as the predominant Baby Boom generation moves through the demographic system bring more families with children into the mix and the citizens of Cross Roads recognize the large aging population. The resultant situation is where Cross Roads stands poised before some significant choices about future trajectory and outcomes. This has been well articulated in the Vision 2035 process.

The community has chosen a path forward that represents change but without losing touch with the important family values and rationale that has always defined Cross Roads as a community. The path ahead is not without its challenges and will require careful balancing of differing priorities, aspirations and desires. The collective decision-making process required to move forward will set Cross Roads apart as an intelligent, engaged, thoughtful and forward-looking Town. It will require maturity and patience on behalf of the citizens and leadership, and recognition that the complex resident mix, which makes Cross Roads interesting, also brings with it differing opinions and perspectives. Understanding the importance of the common good over personal self-interests will be critical to build alignment around important future shaping decisions and actions.

The Town of Cross Roads has enjoyed a long and prosperous history and has assumed the role of a community of choice or aspirational destination Denton County and North Texas. It possesses a strong housing market, prosperous resident mix, large acreage lots, natural preserve, wide open spaces and no property tax. This combines to make Cross Roads the envy of many of its neighbors.

In launching the Cross Roads Vision 2035 process, the Mayor, Town Council and Town staff clearly recognize the importance of each of these strengths in securing the future vitality of the Town. They have further decided to frame this process in as positive or constructive a light as possible in order to encourage residents to consider the possibilities of what Cross Roads could become. The dialogue that has resulted speaks of the Town's potential and has identified a number of areas where the Town could emerge as a regional and national leader.

The Town of Cross Roads has completed Phase One (Steps 1 & 2 up to core values) of Greater Yield's Strategic Planning Methodology with this initial consolidated community vision process. The next steps for the Town of Cross Roads is for your Town Council to accept this plan and move forward to prioritize the needs, wants, desires of the community and start the process of identifying the items that can be accomplished in what time frame then build a strategic plan that will flow into your Town's Comprehensive Plan.



Strategic Planning Methodology



What is strategic planning?

Strategic planning is a management process designed to help organizations achieve desired stakeholder outcomes. This is done by creating a long-term vision for the future, identifying mid-term strategies that will make progress toward the vision, and developing short-term actions to implement strategies.

1 Prepare to plan



Determine the time frame

What time frame is the plan expected to span? Three to five years is ideal, long enough to allow major strategies to be implemented and generate observable results.

Understand the context

Before identifying long term goals and strategies, it's a good idea to do a scan of the organization and environment, looking at service demand, performance and trends. This is a good time to get public input into your plan.



Set your vision

Vision outlines what you want to be in the future—the aspirations of the community for itself. Your vision statement is your inspiration, the ultimate outcome of your strategic plan.



2 Create the plan

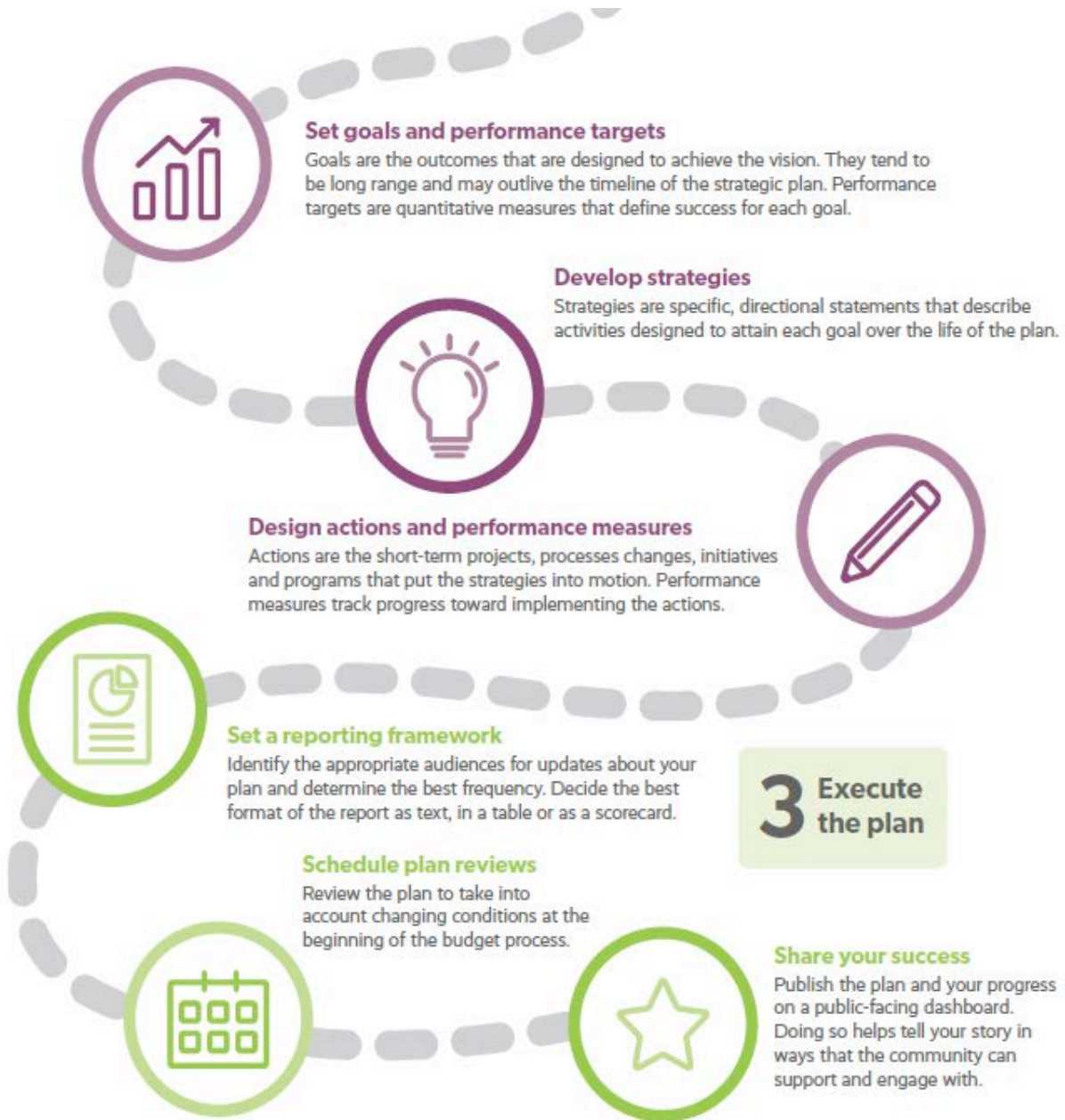
Articulate your mission (optional)

A mission statement defines the fundamental purpose of the organization, succinctly describing what it does to achieve its vision.



Define your values (optional)

Values are the cultural norms that you expect employees to adhere to when carrying out the mission that contributes to executing the plan and achieving the vision.



Once your plan is ready to go, the next step is to find the right solution to help you execute it, track and improve performance and communicate results. Please visit our website www.greateryield.com or contact us at 214-707-6006 to make your plan a reality.

About us

We believe that organizations thrive when there is trust, and that nothing builds trust like a well-executed plan.

www.greateryield.com
DWomack@greateryield.com
1-214-707-6006





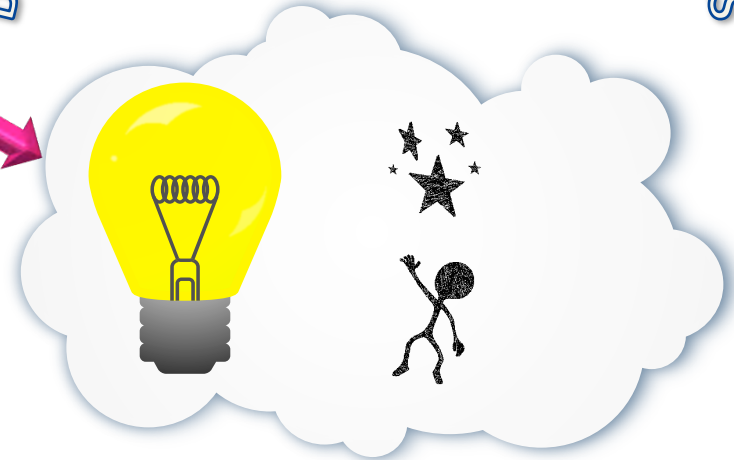
*Imagine for a moment
what your Town
could be at its very best.*



We asked for your input on Cross Roads future and for your VISION of the Town in 2035



DREAM BIG - REACH FOR THE STARS



We asked you to consider all of the potential areas of impact or change



Recreation



Tourism



Community Events



Environment

Parks



Downtown Square



Education & Schools



Transportation



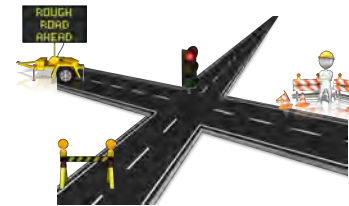
Municipal Development



Emergency Services



Art & Culture



Roads



Retail Stores



Historical Interest



Participation and Engagement

Robust and inclusive community engagement efforts involved hundreds of people from every corner of Cross Roads, those with diverse interest and backgrounds and all age groups.

ENGAGEMENT by the NUMBERS

9

**PUBLIC COMMUNITY
EVENTS / MEETINGS**

1

POP-UP ENGAGEMENT

17

**CROSS ROADS
LEADERSHIP MEETINGS**

35

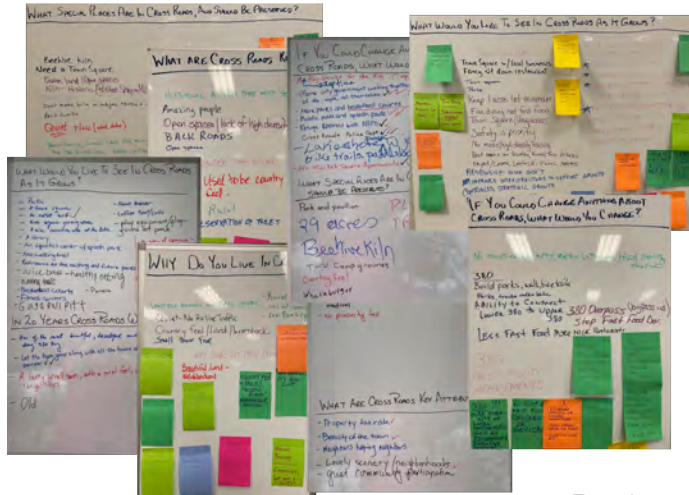
LEADERSHIP MEMBERS

536

SURVEY RESPONSES

557

TOTAL ATTENDEES





*"Residents of Cross Roads are engaged in their community and cherish the environment and natural beauty that surrounds them. Such values are clearly reflected in their vision for preserving and enhancing the small town feel they all embrace."
Debbie Womack*

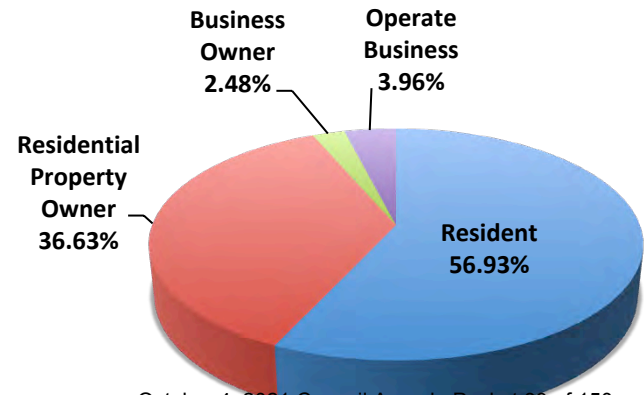
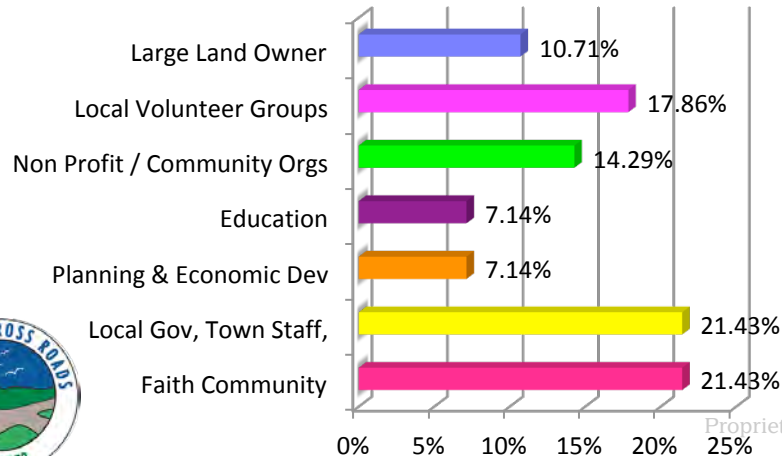
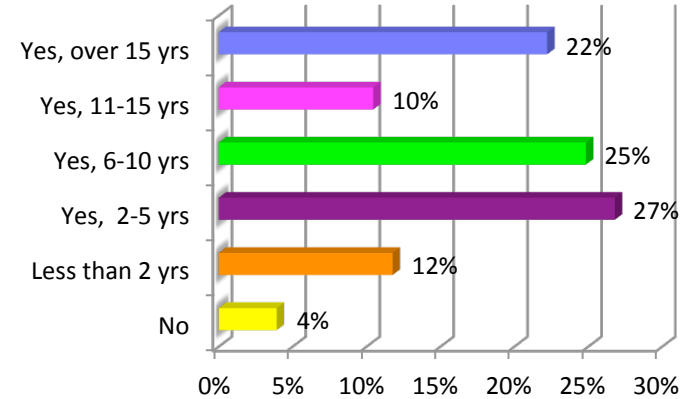
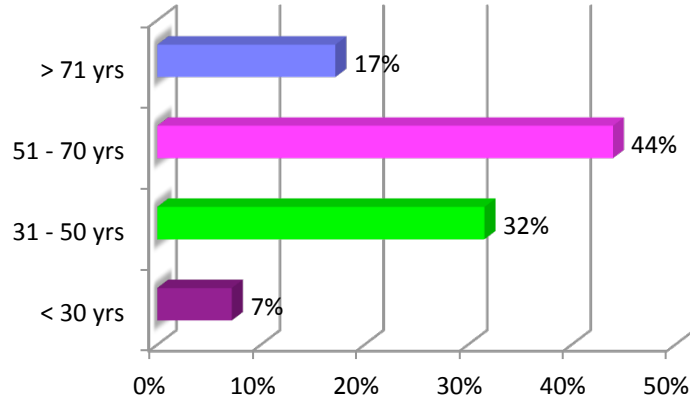
VISION 2035

PARTICIPANT DEMOGRAPHICS



“Demographics of Survey Participants”

Total Town Population per 2020 Census - 1744





VISION 2035

BUILDING OUR FUTURE, TOGETHER



“Building Our Future Together”



VISION STATEMENT

The Town of Cross Roads is a thriving community built on small-town country charm that is committed to an excellent quality of life for our community, citizens, businesses and visitors. We seek sustainable growth that protects our natural and historic resources, while preserving our values, qualities and culture. A strong and active multi-generational population enjoys its spirit of community.



Proprietary - Greater Yield

“Building Our Future Together”



MISSION STATEMENT

To maintain the friendly, approachable small-town nature of our Town through effective local leadership, fiscal responsibility, and efficient management. Through these actions we will create policies that produce a safe and vibrant community where residents delight in living, participating and welcoming guests.



“Building Our Future Together”



CORE VALUES

1. **Integrity First.** We will conduct ourselves at all times in a manner that is ethical, legal, and professional with an unwavering commitment to honesty, fairness and respectfulness.
2. **Visionary Leadership and Planning.** We believe that the very essence of leadership is to be visionary and plan for the future.
3. **Innovative Stewardship.** We will challenge the status quo with regard to the way public services are designed, financed, and delivered to the citizens of Cross Roads and we will manage our community resources with the present and future generations in mind.
4. **Teamwork with a Purpose.** We function as a team and in partnership with the Town staff and essential service providers, who are dedicated to creating a superior work environment and are committed to delivering exceptional services to the citizens, residents, and stakeholders of Cross Roads.
5. **Transparency in All Decisions.** The process by which deliberations are initiated, decisions are made and actions are taken will be done with commitment to full transparency.





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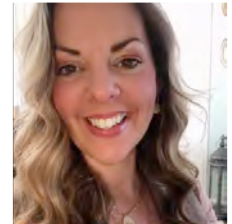
David R. Meek
Mayor Pro-Tem
Councilman



Kurt Decker
Councilman



Tim Agnew
Councilman



Wendy White-Stevens
Councilwoman



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Building Our Future, Together.



John Knox
President
Municipal Dev.
District



Sara Montazeri
Vice President
Municipal Dev.
District

Municipal Development District “Cross Roads – Open for Business”



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Building Our Future, Together.



Jim Riley
Chair



Planning & Zoning Commission

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Excellence

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Our Mission:

The Town of Cross Roads Parks & Recreation Board’s mission is to enhance the quality of life by providing for safe, well-maintained parks and public places, preserving historic resources and strengthening the bonds of community through programs and special events.

We create opportunities for renewal, growth, and enrichment, while actively caring for and protecting our urban forest to create a beautiful, livable town for the benefit of a community of people who live, work and visit the Town of Cross Roads.

These services will be facilitated and delivered through passionate, professional and proactive response to community interests and identified values.

Building Our Future, Together.



Ron Zofeld
Chair
Parks & Rec
Advisory Board



Vicki Knox
Vice Chair
Parks & Rec
Advisory Board



Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

“Working to enrich our community by creating extraordinary recreational experiences”

Our Core Values:

Core values are internal beliefs and qualities treasured by the community. These shared beliefs form a philosophy that guide the Town’s parks and recreation services.

Community Engagement

We work collaboratively to include and engage the full diversity of our community through community events and programs.

Family-Friendliness

We provide safe environments, clean and beautiful spaces and a welcoming atmosphere accessible to all.

Conservation & Stewardship

We responsibly manage and care for our natural and physical resources for current and future generations.

Health & Wellness

We provide environments for the promotion of mental and physical health, activity and relaxation.





Administrative Staff

“It All Starts Here, Where Service Meets Integrity”

Our Mission:

To be effective and responsible stewards of public resources, to wisely and prudently use these resources for the public good, and to be accountable to those who have placed their trust in us.

To serve those around us with passion, being mindful to act in an ethical manner. We are committed to providing our customers with helpful and friendly service. We strive to work with both stakeholders and citizens to see that their goals can be achieved while working within the framework of the regulations adopted by the Town.

Building Our Future, Together.



Kristi Gilbert
Town Administrator



Administrative Staff

“It All Starts Here, Where Service Meets Integrity”

Our Core Values:

Fiscally Responsible

We are entrusted with the public funds and we recognize it is a vital responsibility to ensure that the funds are budgeted and expended properly in support of the communities’ goals.

Responsive

As public servants we strive to serve the Town of Cross Roads citizens and to exceed expectations. That is and should always be our constant focus. We listen, are empathetic and take appropriate action. We pursue good and timely solutions, and are alert to modifying strategies in response to unintended consequences.

Accountable

We take responsibility for our decisions and actions. We are accountable to our community and to each other so that future generations will have as many opportunities available to them as we do today. We encourage and practice servant leadership.

Respect

We acknowledge the dignity of every employee, citizen, resident, and visitor in our Town. We work actively to eliminate barriers to full participation in community life. We conduct Town business with courtesy, civility, and respect.



Cross Roads Police Department “In Partnership With Our Community”



Our Vision:

The **Vision** of the Cross Roads Police Department is to attract and retain highly competent and diverse employees in order to maintain the respect and confidence of the community. Utilizing our core values, the department will continue to adapt within an ever-changing environment, thereby achieving excellence in law enforcement.

Our Mission:

The **Mission** of the Cross Roads Police Department is to serve as guardians of the Cross Roads community by protecting life and property, enforcing the law, detecting and deterring crime, preserving the peace and the rights of all people as guided by the Constitution, of the USA and through collaborative partnerships within the community.

Building our Future, Together.



Schaun Short
Chief, CR Police Dept.

Cross Roads Police Department

“In Partnership With Our Community”



Our Core Values:

The Cross Roads Police Department strives for excellence in law enforcement based upon the following **Core Values**:

Integrity

Behaving ethically with moral principals and guiding trustworthy actions.

Service

Recognizing the needs of the community and responding to those needs to improve community relations and the quality of life.

Teamwork

Collaborating in an impactful way with all our citizens and stakeholders for the betterment of our community.

Accountability

Taking ownership for our actions; being responsible for the outcomes; and a willingness to be transparent, while holding ourselves to the highest standards both on and off duty.

Respect

Acknowledging the need for all individuals to be treated with dignity and understanding.



Little Elm Fire Department



Our Mission

The mission of the Little Elm Fire Department is to provide service excellence through outstanding pre-hospital care, fire suppression, fire prevention, and superior customer service to the residents and patrons of Little Elm and Cross Roads.

Core Values

Our mission is accomplished through the Town's Core Values of integrity, customer service, efficiency, and innovation. We know as we continue tying our values to our mission that will be a premiere emergency services provider and will imprint our legacy on the fire service and in the community.

Commitment to Excellence

Our commitment to excellence is shown through our dedication to strategic planning and commitment to growth and expansion of resources and personnel. In 2016, the Town of Little Elm earned the prestigious Public Protection ISO (Insurance Services Office) Class One designation through the efforts of the Little Elm Fire Department, Little Elm Water Department and our contracted dispatch services through the Denton County Sheriff's Department.



Paul Rust
Chief, Little Elm FD





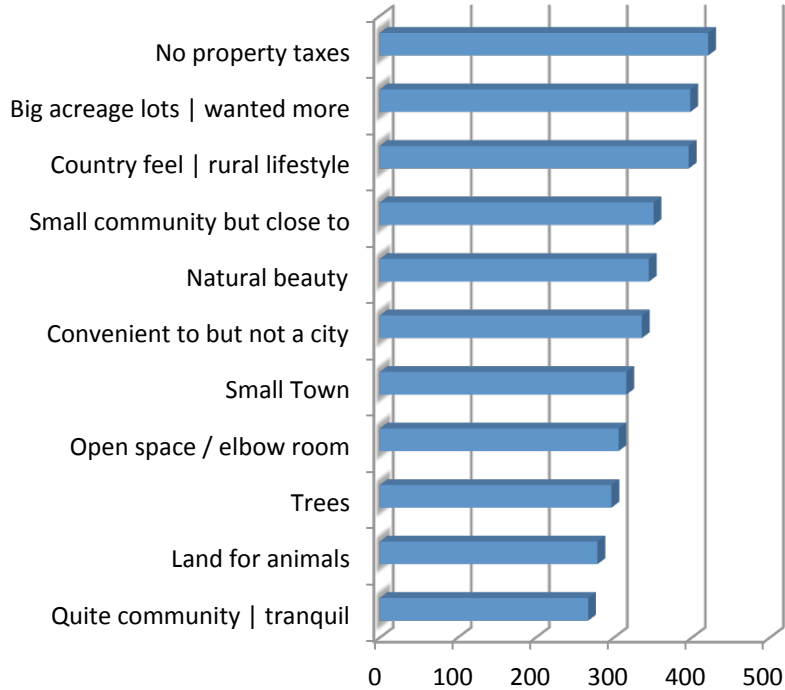
VISION 2035

SURVEY SUMMARY RESULTS

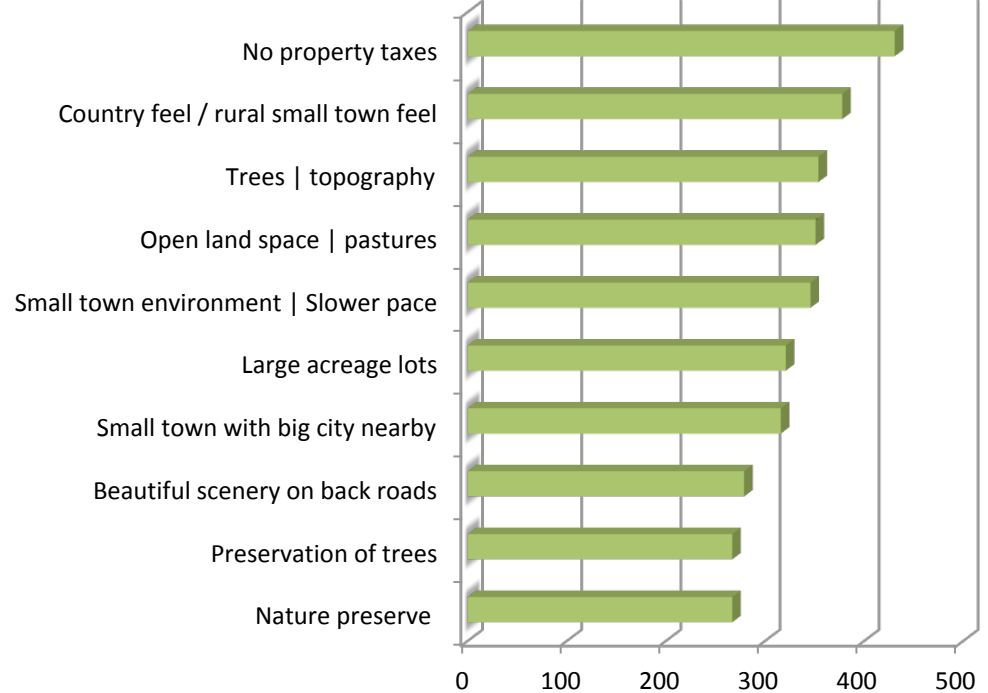


Survey Questions (Top 10 Responses)

Why do you live in Cross Roads?

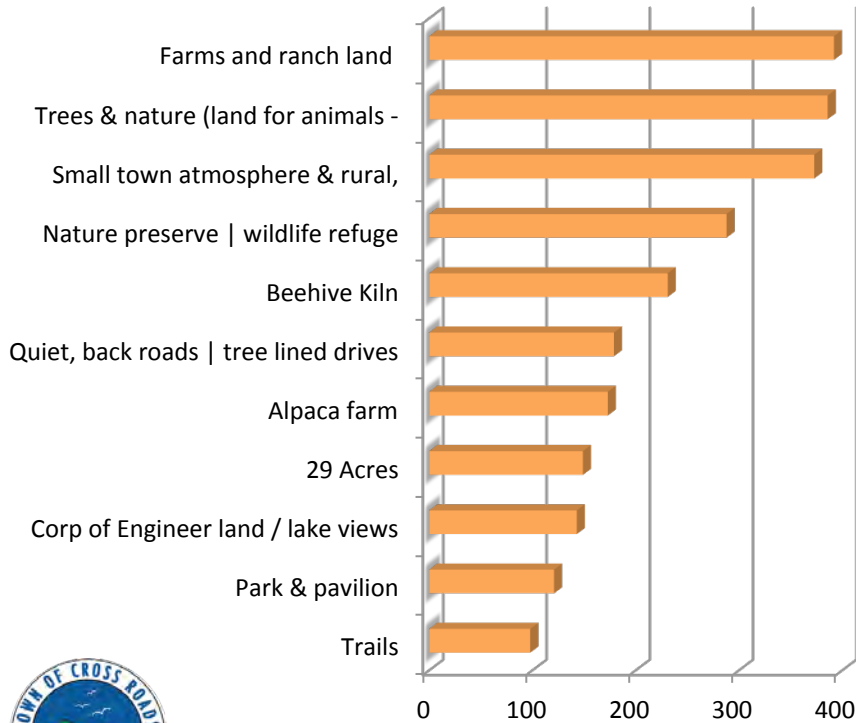


What are Cross Roads Key Attributes?

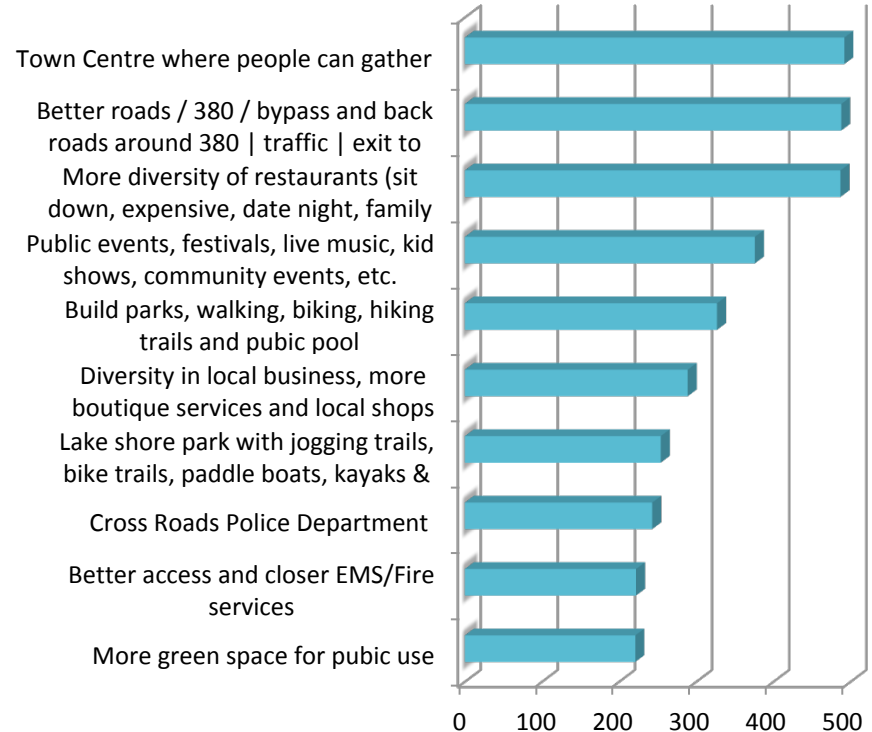


Survey Questions (Top 10 Responses)

What special places are in Cross Roads and should be preserved?

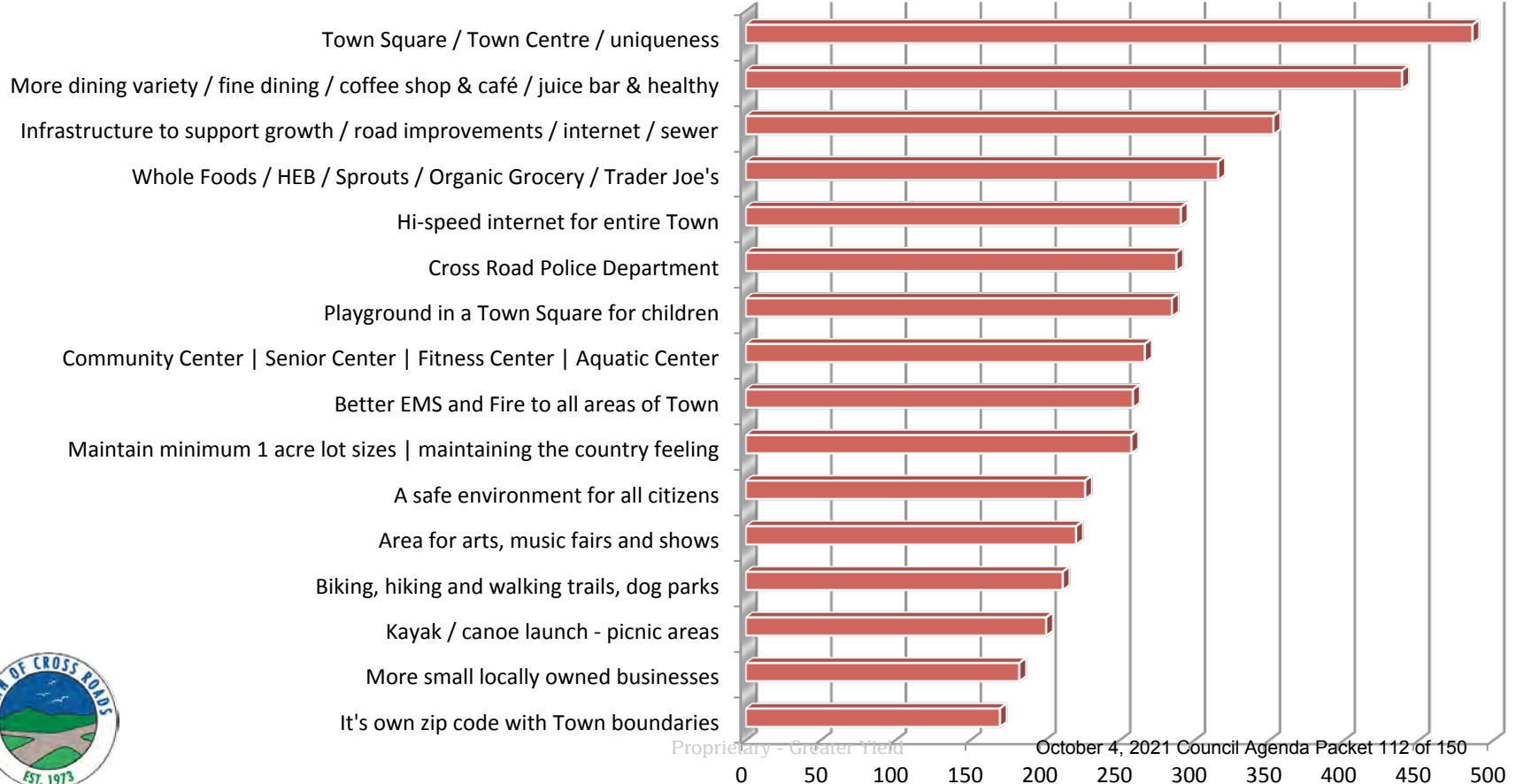


If you could change anything about Cross Roads, what would you change?



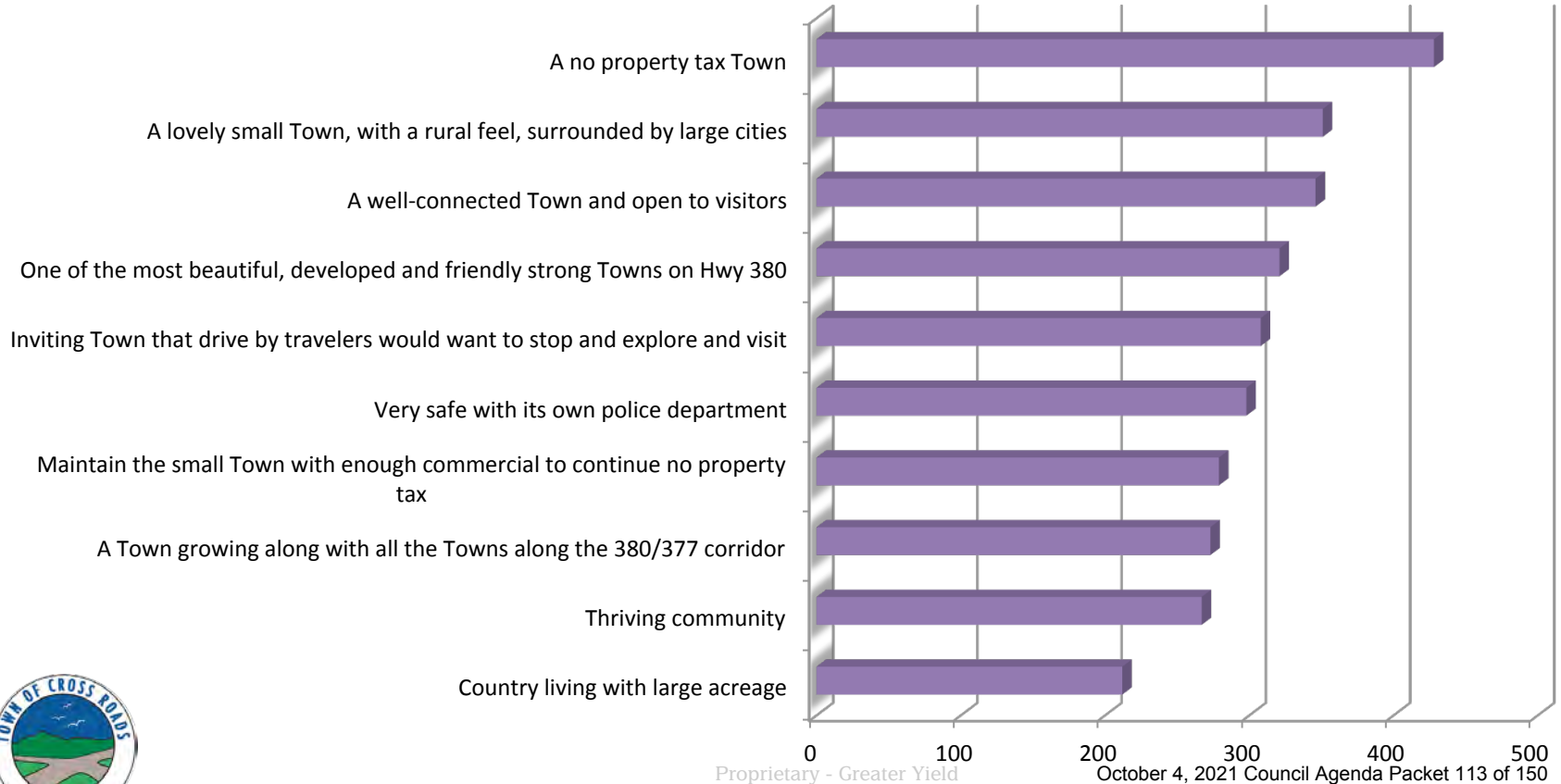
Survey Questions (Top 16 Responses)

What would you like to see in Cross Roads as it grows?



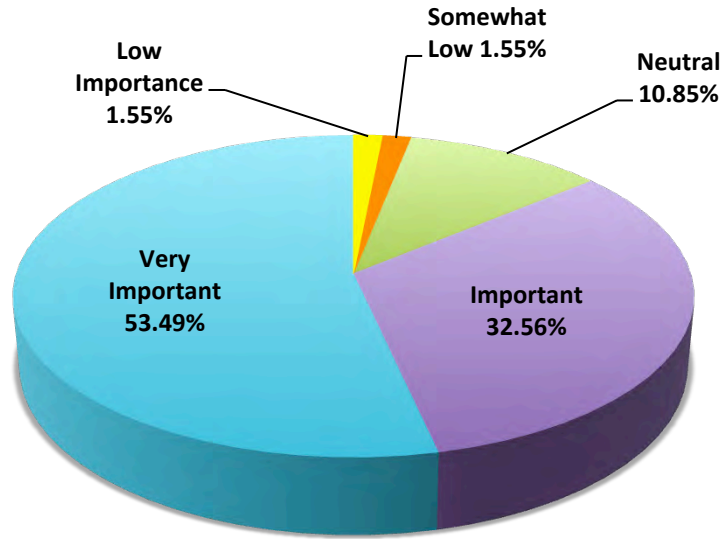
Survey Questions (Top 10 Responses)

In 20 years Cross Roads will be....



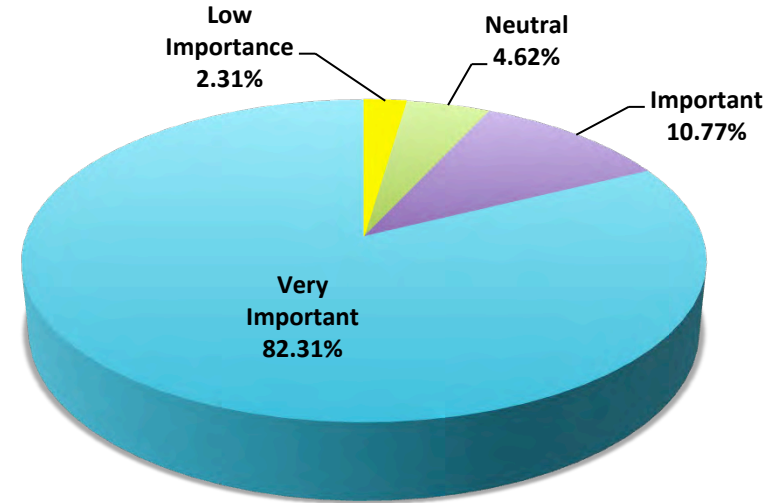
Survey Questions *(cont.)*

Conservation of natural habitats, trees and open spaces



86.5%
Very Important /
Important

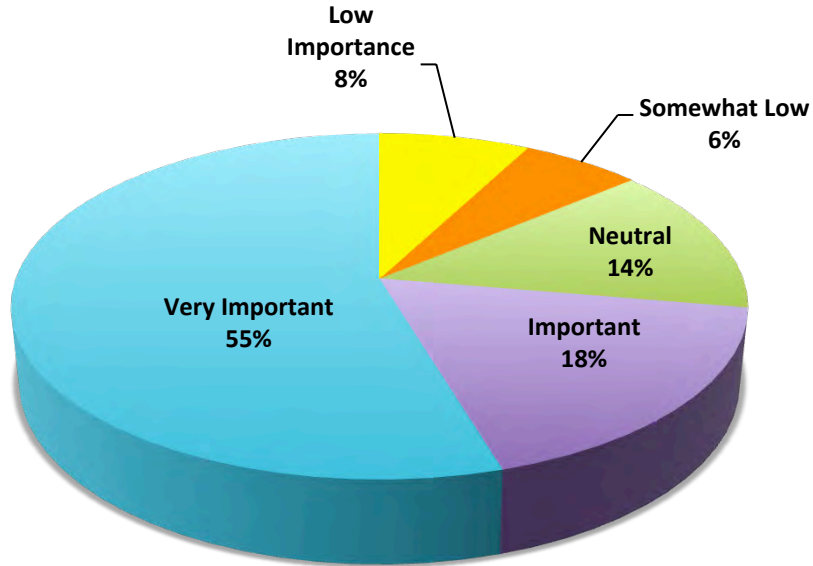
Preserve the Town's No Property Tax status



93.08%
Very Important /
Important

Survey Questions *(cont.)*

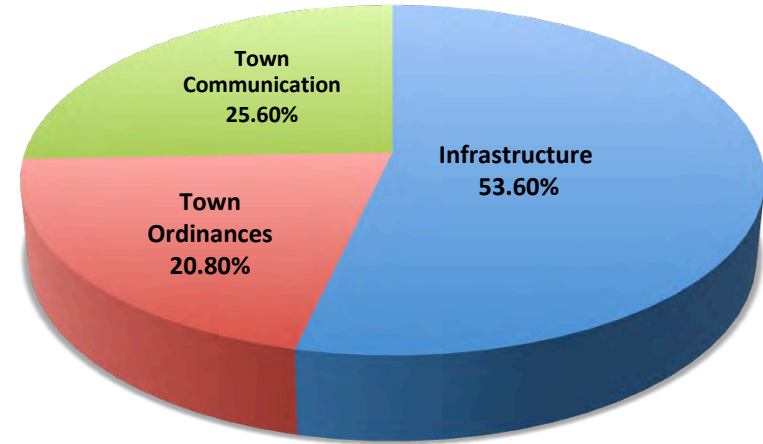
**Promote residential development of
estate lots 1-acre or larger**



73%

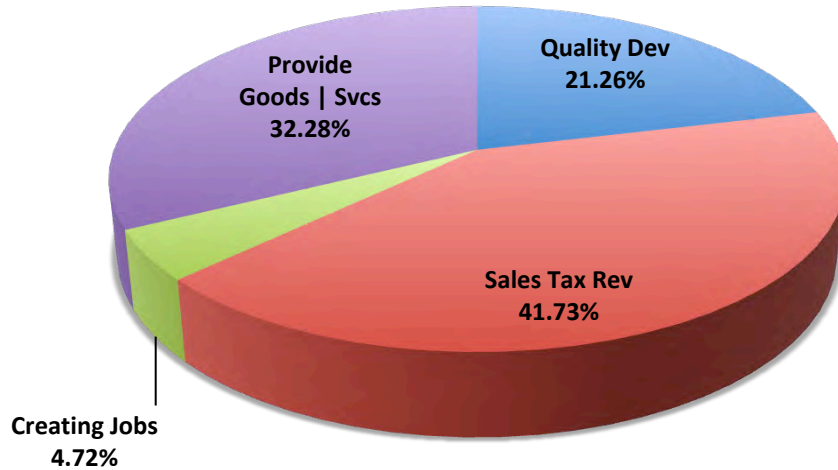
**Very Important /
Important**

**What do you think CR must focus on to
attract quality businesses**

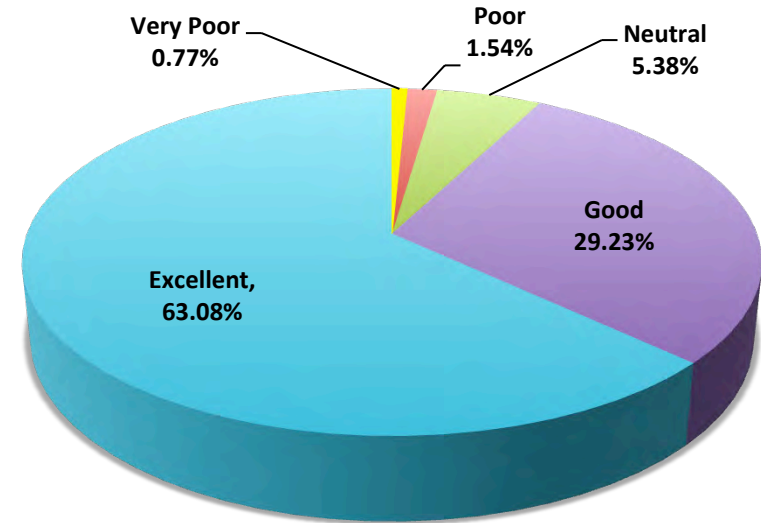


Survey Questions *(cont.)*

What results do you most desire from bringing new business to CR



Quality of Life in Cross Roads



92.31%
Excellent / Good



Survey Questions (cont.)

What **ACTIONS** has Cross Roads taken that have **IMPROVED** your **OUTLOOK** for the Town

- The fact that this survey has been sent shows me that you care about the people of cross roads and want to make it better
- Fixing roads and adding stoplights where necessary
- Preserved trees and require 1 acre minimum property for home owners
- Not allowing unnecessary residential road improvements that would increase traffic and ruin the town's charm
- The protection of trees and the one-acre lot minimum are good steps but we need more
- Our own police department will be a positive change
- Separate from NEPD and manage our own destiny
- Preserved no city tax
- Open government, posting agenda packets
- Mayor and Council activities more transparent; communication from town is stronger and transparent
- Design is more upscale
- More professional communication practices
- Created a Park Board
- New mayor and town administrator
- Community market has been a wonderful addition that last few years and keeps that small town feel alive
- Administration that provides citizen input and transparency
- Much better communication from town government to residents
- Cleanup Day
- Email, eBlast and Facebook communications to keep us more informed
- The process of asking us what we want. And the hopeful listening and delivering on those requests
- Atwood's
- Widening of some roads making it easier to get around
- Proactive addressing issues and making sound decisions on what is in Cross Roads best interest
- New town attorney
- New Mayor Pro-Tem
- Asking for feedback! And allowing citizens input
- Transparency and honesty
- Long range planning is better





- **Town Square / Town Centre** (open concept all walkable, fine dining, niche shops, local shops, park area, outdoor seating, water feature, winery, healthy food, juice bar, coffee shop & café, outdoor seating, seating off water, safe, destination place, date night, concerts, outdoor movies, trees, gazebo)

Many terms used for Vision 2035 were also what is valued today.

- **Small Town feel** (size, character, quiet, safety, security, beauty, pride and morals)
- **Community** (caring, supportive, accepting, close-knit, engaged, involved, calm and quiet)
- **Outdoors / Nature** (lake, open spaces, views, wilderness area, hiking, biking and walking)
- **Parks** (playgrounds, picnic areas, restrooms, water fountains, splash/minimum water areas, adaptive and adult areas)
- **Community Events** (public and farmers markets, fairs, holiday events in parks, police & fire appreciation, and art / cultural fairs)
- **Family oriented & multi-generational** (community center, senior center, recreational center, and sports fields)



Cross Roads Vision 2035 Framework & Focus





Cross Roads Vision – Framework

HEALTHY PEOPLE

Cross Roads citizens want a community where people, throughout their lifespans, are safe, physically active and improve their mental and physical health by spending time outdoors and with each other.

INVITING PLACES

Cross Roads citizens want a community, for all ages, full of places with beauty, nature, social offerings and openness that draw people to them as a destination location.

VIBRANT “DOWNTOWN”

Cross Roads citizens want to have vibrant “downtown” that offers shopping and support services nearby, as well as convenient public facilities such as quality roads and parks.

THRIVING ECONOMY

Cross Roads citizens want a place thriving with economic activity, a variety of business types where innovative individuals create and/or run sustainable businesses.





Cross Roads Vision – Framework

HEALTHY PEOPLE

Cross Roads citizens want a community where people, throughout their lifespans, are safe, physically active and improve their mental and physical health by spending time outdoors and with each other.

Potential Strategies

- Connecting people to nature and open spaces
- Conserving quality open space so that as the community continues to develop people can enjoy the outdoors
- Promote destination location trails and parks
 - Recreational and exercise focused
 - Walking, hiking, running, biking and horseback trails
 - Human & dog amenities & Pedestrian stopping points
 - ❖ Water, Shade, Benches
 - Installing outdoor exercise equipment for all ages along trails and in parks
- Provide access to natural trail corridors within the town limits
- Creating multi-generational community spaces
 - Recreational center, Senior center, Community center





Cross Roads Vision – Framework

INVITING PLACES

Cross Roads citizens want a community, for all ages, full of places with beauty, nature, social offerings and openness that draw people to them as a destination location.

Potential Strategies

- Create welcoming gateways
- Enhance a sense of community by designating gathering spots / encouraging community events
- Look for new commercial developments that concentrate on providing more walkable centers
- Allow for more green spaces and slow traffic to improve pedestrian safety
- Promote community events and neighborhood events
- Access to trail connections
- Provide cluster seating arrangements to encourage openness in shopping areas
- Create pocket gardens with water features
- Focus on low-cost, high-impact improvements such as seating, outdoor cafés, public art, gardens and murals
- Preserve historical locations and iconic roadways



Cross Roads Vision – Framework

VIBRANT “DOWNTOWN”

Cross Roads citizens want to have vibrant “downtown” that offers shopping and support services nearby, as well as convenient public facilities such as quality roads and parks.

Potential Strategies

- Establish an Identifiable Town Square / Town Centre
 - Economic, social and cultural heart of Cross Roads
- Market and promote for destination location

Fine dining with outdoor seating

Niche higher end retail shopping

Boutique business opportunities

Expanded farmers’ market

Water features (river, splash pad, fountain)

Community gathering places

Protected pathways

Pocket gardens

Entertainment

Open spaces / open lawn

Picnic tables

Concerts

Outdoor movies

Park benches

Outdoor music

- Facilitating long-term improvements and maintenance of public infrastructure and private property along the corridor to include lighting
- Community education of the plans for 380 and the overall impact to Town
- Increase police visibility through community policing along corridor and targeting speed enforcement to reduce accidents and improve overall safety



Cross Roads Vision – Framework

THRIVING ECONOMY

Cross Roads citizens want a place thriving with economic activity, a variety of business types where innovative individuals create and/or run sustainable businesses.

Potential Strategies

- Regulate residential and commercial development to preserve Cross Roads small Town atmosphere
- Reimagining retail and commercial areas
- Continue to diversify the economy with revenue generating businesses
- Support the existing businesses so they can expand and continue to grow
- Encourage boutique shops, artisan makers and fine dining restaurants to locate in Cross Roads
- Attract destinations such as recreational facility and outdoor entertainment venues
- Continue to promote the Town's outstanding quality of life elements, unique brand and positive image throughout the region
- Maintaining competitive economic development policies and utilizing incentives to achieve community goals and ensure high-quality revenue generating commercial development





Cross Roads Vision – Additional Focus

MULTI-GENERATIONAL POPULATION

Cross Roads citizens want to interact with one another – regardless of age or demographic makeup.

Potential Strategies

- Creating multi-generational community spaces
 - Recreational center, Senior center, Community center
- Research has shown people of all ages experience better physical and mental health and less isolation and loneliness when they participate in intergenerational activities
- Seniors have similar desires in a community as younger people, like access to parks, fitness, education, restaurants, common areas and, most importantly, a meaningful sense of community
- Develop intergenerational programs that provide for people of all ages to interact with each other
 - Community Center, Rec Center, Senior Center, Pubic Market, Farmers Market, and public spaces
- Establish park activities that cater to different generational cohorts
- Invest in playgrounds and activities that specifically cater to young families as well as adults
- Ensure you plan and execute access and inclusion strategies for the future (i.e., parks and green space need to include benches and seating and totally accessible facilities) that allow for citizens to age in place





COMMUNITY BARRIER





Cross Roads Vision 2035 Community Barrier

Community not coming together as one for
the betterment of the Town as a whole

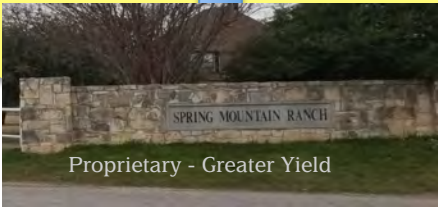
Need to start “Building Our Future, Together.” with pride

Town identity vs. Neighborhood identity

“We are from The Town of Cross Roads”

“I am from The Town of Cross Roads”





Proprietary - Greater Yield



Cross Roads Vision 2035 Take Away

The Town of Cross Roads Vision 2035 – Building Our Future Together

- Presented an opportunity for the community to come together and explore the longer-term future
- Current period of change within Cross Roads represents an important juncture in the community's history and evolution
- Cross Roads stands poised before some significant choices about future trajectory and outcomes.
- Path forward that represents change but without losing touch with the important family values and rationale that has always defined Cross Roads as a community





Cross Roads Vision 2035 Take Away *(cont.)*

- Path ahead is not without its challenges and will require careful balancing of differing priorities, aspirations and desires
- The collective decision-making process required to move forward will set Cross Roads apart as an intelligent, engaged, thoughtful and forward-looking Town
- Requires maturity and patience on behalf of the citizens and leadership, and recognition that the complex resident mix, which makes Cross Roads interesting, also brings with it differing opinions and perspectives
- Understanding the importance of the common good over personal self-interests will be critical to build alignment around important future shaping decisions and actions
- In launching the Cross Roads Vision 2035 process, the Mayor, Town Council and Town staff clearly recognize the importance of each of these strengths and opportunities in securing the future vitality of the Town.





Cross Roads Vision 2035 Transforming Vision into Action

The Vision 2035 process has produced the following information:

- Documented detailed understanding of the community's view across a range of important topics and future shaping factors
- Identified key themes and framework with possible strategies for planning
- Begun the process of prioritizing actions and sequencing these into a broadly defined 'roadmap to the future'

The following institutional next steps are recommended:

- Consideration and endorsement of *The Town of Cross Roads – Vision 2035 – Building Our Future, Together* report and presentation by the Town Council
- Decision from Mayor and Town Council on next steps





Cross Roads Vision 2035 Transforming Vision into Action

- If approved the Mayor and Town Council would next decide on the process and methodology to implement the next Phase of this visioning process
- Select the Town's Visioning Leader who would work with Mayor and Town Council to establish the coordinating committee to lead the Phase 2 project of establishing the Town's priorities and creating the final Strategic Vision 2035 Implementation Plan
- Team would present its final recommendations to the Mayor and Town Council and vote would be taken to move forward
- This Vision 2035 Strategic Plan would then lead directly into the Town's Comprehensive Plan as well as supporting Master Plans for Town Square, Infrastructure and Parks and Recreation
- All supported by implementation plan(s) with actionable and measureable task, goals and milestone dates reportable to the community



Cross Roads Vision 2035 Fulfilling the Promise



**VISION WITHOUT
ACTION IS
MERELY A
DREAM. ACTION
WITHOUT VISION
JUST PASSES THE
TIME. VISION
WITH ACTION
CAN CHANGE THE
WORLD.**





COUNCIL AGENDA BRIEFING SHEET

Meeting Date:

October 4, 2021

Agenda Item:

Discuss and consider approval of a resolution designating the official newspaper of record for the Town of Cross Roads.

Prepared by:

Kristi Gilbert, Town Administrator

Description:

Section 52.004 of the Texas Local Government Code requires Type A general-law municipalities to designate an official newspaper "as soon as practicable after the beginning of each municipal year."

Both papers bill using different formulas. For comparison purposes, Staff compared the rates for both the bid notice for the sale of the NEPD building and for a typical public hearing notification.

	Post Signal	Denton RC
NEPD Bid Notice (one day)	\$98.05	\$59.17
Public Hearing Notice (one day)	\$74.30	\$41.00

Recommended Action:

Staff recommends approval of a resolution designating the Denton Record Chronicle as the official newspaper of record for the Town of Cross Roads.

Attachments:

Resolution

Prices for Denton Record Chronicle

Prices for Pilot Point Post Signal

Texas Municipal League FAQ's on Newspapers

RESOLUTION 2021-_____

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CROSS ROADS, TEXAS PROVIDING FOR THE DESIGNATION OF THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF RECORD FOR THE PURPOSE OF PUBLISHING EACH ORDINANCE, NOTICE OR OTHER MATTER REQUIRED BY LAW OR ORDINANCE TO BE PUBLISHED AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Town of Cross Roads, Texas is a Type A General Law Municipality located in Denton County, Texas, created in accordance with the provision of Chapter 6 of the Texas Local Government Code and operating pursuant to the enabling legislation of the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 52.004 of the Texas Local Government Code, the Town Council must designate an official newspaper of record for publishing ordinances, notices and other matters required by law or ordinance to be published for the Town of Cross Roads, Denton County, Texas.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CROSS ROADS, TEXAS:

Section 1. The above and foregoing premises are true and correct legislative findings and they are incorporated herein and made a part hereof for all purposes.

Section 2: That the Town of Cross Roads hereby designates the _____ as the official newspaper of record pursuant to Section 52.004 of the Texas Local Government Code, for publishing each ordinance, notice, or other matter required by law or ordinance to be published.

Section 3. That this resolution, and the removal and appointment herein, shall take effective immediately from and after the date of its passage.

DULY PASSED by the Town Council of the Town of Cross Roads, Texas, on **the** _____ **day of** _____, **2021.**

TOWN OF CROSS ROADS, TEXAS


T. Lynn Tompkins, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST

Donna Butler, Town Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Matthew C.G. Boyle, Town Attorney

From: **Patty LaGard** plagard@dentonrc.com 
Subject: Re: Rates for Legal Notices
Date: September 23, 2021 at 9:17 AM
To: Donna Butler d.butler@crossroadstx.gov, classads classads@dentonrc.com

PL

Hi Donna,

The rates for in-column legal notices are \$.60 cents per line per day + \$.10 cents per line for bold (charged on total # of lines, one time charge) + \$1.00 for the web + \$5.00 per publisher's affidavit.

Legal Display ad in classifieds is \$8.50 per column inch per day + \$5.00 per publisher's affidavit.

Legal Display ad in Main part of paper is \$40.00 per column inch per day for the print edition and \$36.50 per column inch per day Mon-Fri + \$5.00 per publisher's affidavit.

Thanks,

Patty La Gard
Inside Sales Manager | Denton Record-Chronicle
940-566-6854 direct | 940-387-7755 classifieds
3555 Duchess Drive | P.O. Box 369 | Denton, TX 76205



From: Abigail Allen aallen@postsignal.com
Subject: Re: rates for legal notices
Date: September 23, 2021 at 10:24 AM
To: Donna Butler d.butler@crossroadstx.gov

AA

Hi Donna,

I hope you're doing well, too.

Our rates for our regular legal notices are as follows: \$15 for the first 15 words, and an additional 20 cents per word after that. Notices that run as a display follow our typical ad costs, which is \$6.50 multiplied by the number of columns it is wide by the notice's height in inches (i.e. a quarter-page legal notice is \$6.50 x 3 columns x 10.5 inches in black and white, which would cost \$204.75.

Also, in case this is a question anyone relays to you, our notices not only get local eyes, but they are also circulated by a service that pulls from our paper each week as an additional way for contractors to see about bids for jobs.

If you have any additional questions, please feel free to ask.

Thank you,

Abigail Allen
Managing Editor
Pilot Point Post-Signal
O: 940-686-2169
C: 940-765-1965
www.postsignal.com

Legal Q&A

By Christy Drake-Adams, TML Legal Counsel

November 2013

Must a city designate an official newspaper?

State law requires that at the beginning of the fiscal year the city council of a Type A city designate its official newspaper by resolution or ordinance and contract with that paper to publish required notices. TEX. LOC. GOV'T CODE § 52.004(a). Each ordinance, notice, and any other matter required by law or ordinance to be published must be published in the official paper regardless of where else it is published. *Id.* § 52.004(b).

These requirements are not expressly provided in state law for other types of general law cities. However, they arguably apply because of the “borrowing provisions.” Specifically, Type B cities have the same duties as a Type A city, unless there is a conflicting state provision regarding only Type B cities. *Id.* § 51.035. And, depending on its population, a Type C city has either the same duties as a Type B city or a Type A city. *Id.* § 51.051.

State law also seems to anticipate that a home rule city designate an official newspaper. *See id.* § 52.013(b) (“If the charter . . . does not provide for the method of publication of an ordinance, the full text of the ordinance or a caption that summarizes the purpose of the ordinance and the penalty for violating the ordinance may be published at least twice in the municipality’s official newspaper.”). In some cities, the charter actually “name[s] the official newspaper in which to publish the official city notices.” TERRELL BLODGETT, TEXAS HOME RULE CHARTERS 93 (2d. ed. 2010). Any details regarding the designation, such as the timing and form of designation, are found in the city’s charter as well.

Must a city seek competitive bids or proposals in designating its official newspaper?

Maybe. With certain exceptions, a city is required to following the bidding or proposal procedures outlined in Local Government Code Chapter 252 when it plans to make an expenditure of more than \$50,000 in city funds. TEX. LOC. GOV'T CODE § 252.021(a)-(b); *id.* § 252.022(a)(16) (providing that Chapter 252 does not apply to an expenditure for advertising, other than legal notices). An informal survey conducted by the Texas Municipal League in 2012 indicates that only the largest cities (500,000+ population) reach this \$50,000 spending threshold for newspaper publications. However, it is important to note that a city may impose on itself a lower dollar threshold and, in that way, trigger the need to competitively bid for an official newspaper.

What criteria must a newspaper meet in order to qualify as the official newspaper?

While there is some dispute among attorneys as to the exact requirements that apply in designating an official newspaper, a city using the criteria in Government Code Sections 2051.044 and 2051.048 is on strong legal footing. Section 2051.044 provides that a newspaper used to convey official notices must as a general matter:

- (1) devote not less than 25 percent of its total column lineage to general interest items;
- (2) be published at least once each week;
- (3) be entered as second-class postal matter in the county where published; and
- (4) have been published regularly and continuously for at least 12 months before the governmental entity or representative publishes notice.

TEX. GOV'T CODE § 2051.044(a).

Section 2051.048 provides that a notice published by a city must, as a general matter, be published in a newspaper:

- (1) that is published in the city; and
- (2) that will publish the notice at or below the legal rate.

Id. § 2051.048(b). (Note: Section 2051.048 provides alternative requirements when no newspaper is published in the city at the specified rate. *Id.* § 2051.048(c)-(d).)

A home rule city must also look to its charter for any additional criteria. *See, e.g., State ex rel. Winn v. City of San Antonio*, 259 S.W.2d 248, 251-52 (Tex. Civ. App.—San Antonio 1953, writ ref'd n.r.e.) (discussing a charter provision that required publication in a “daily newspaper”).

Has a city's designation of a particular newspaper as its “official newspaper” ever been challenged?

Yes. From time to time, we hear from cities that receive threatening letters from a newspaper claiming that the city has not complied with the law in its designation of an official newspaper. This often arises when a city is located in more than one county, and has multiple papers to choose from, or when a city is changing its official newspaper. Some newspapers have actually sued cities in conjunction with the designation of an official newspaper. *See, e.g., Forney Messenger, Inc. v. Tennon*, 959 F.Supp. 389, 390 (N.D. Tex. 1997) (alleging that city officials conducted a sham bidding process and then voted to switch all city advertising to a different newspaper in violation of the Open Meetings Act).

Is an “official newspaper” the same thing as a newspaper of “general circulation”?

No, not necessarily. The attorney general has opined that a newspaper of general circulation is one that: (1) has more than a de minimis number of subscribers within a specific geographic region; (2) has a diverse readership; and (3) publishes some items of general interest to the community. Tex. Att'y Gen. Op. No. JC-0223 (2000). Thus, if your city is acting under one of the many statutes that requires notice be published in a newspaper of general circulation, the newspaper must meet the three criteria set out above.

In addition, assuming the law under which the city is acting does not specify a contrary manner of publication, the attorney general has opined that a newspaper of general circulation must also meet the requirements of an official newspaper. *Id.* (discussing county publications and concluding that “a newspaper of general circulation must be a newspaper for the purposes of

section 2051.044, in addition to having more than a de minimis number of subscribers and a diverse subscribership”).

What could happen if a city is required, but fails, to use a newspaper of general circulation?

A city that takes an action for which notice must be published in a newspaper of general circulation is subject to having that action challenged if a proper newspaper is not used. *See, e.g., Christy v. Williams*, 292 S.W.2d 348, 350-51 (Tex. Civ. App.—Galveston 1956, writ dismissed)(challenging a bond election notice because the paper was not entered as a second class postal matter); Tex. Att’y Gen. Op. No. GA-0380 (2005) (discussing possible consequences of county’s failure to use a newspaper of general circulation).

How much should a newspaper charge your city to publish a notice?

Section 2051.045 of the Government Code provides that the legal rate for publication of a notice in a newspaper by a governmental entity is the newspaper’s lowest published rate for classified advertising.

If no newspaper published in either the city or the county in which the city is located will publish the notice at or below this legal rate, a city should post the notice at the door of the county courthouse in the court in which the city is located. TEX. GOV’T CODE § 2051.048(d); *see also* Tex. Att’y Gen. Op. No. GA-0856 (2011).

Where is a newspaper published?

The attorney general has opined that, under Texas law, the location of publication is where the newspaper is released to the public. Tex. Att’y Gen. Op. No. GA-0838 (2011) (citing *Christy v. Williams*, 292 S.W.2d 348, 352 (Tex. Civ. App.—Galveston 1956, writ dismissed) and Tex. Att’y Gen. Op. No. O-7112 (1946)).

Which state statutes require a city to publish notice in the newspaper?

A noncomprehensive review of the state law identified over 100 statutes that require cities to publish some type of notice in a newspaper. Many statutes require publication of the same notice multiple times. Following are some of the most common situations in which state law requires a city to publish a notice in a newspaper:

- Adopting an Ordinance. *See, e.g.,* TEX. LOC. GOV’T CODE §§ 52.011-.013.
- Holding an Election. *See, e.g.,* TEX. ELEC. CODE § 4.003, TEX. LOC. GOV’T CODE §9.004 (charter amendment).
- Conducting a Hearing. *See, e.g.,* TEX. LOC. GOV’T CODE §§ 43.0561 (annexation), 102.0065 (budget), 211.006 (zoning).
- Making a Purchase. *See, e.g., id.* § 252.041.

What is one of the most common questions the attorneys at the League receive regarding newspaper notice?

One of the most frequent inquiries our attorneys receive in relation to newspaper notice is whether state law requires a city to advertise job openings in a newspaper. The answer is no. There is no law that requires a city to advertise every job opening in a newspaper. Nevertheless, one way to prevent having an Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) discrimination complaint or lawsuit filed against the city is to sufficiently advertise job openings, which may include advertisement in a newspaper.

To avoid a discrimination claim, a city should advertise a job opening so that it reaches a large cross-section of the population. Federal, state, and sometimes local laws prohibit hiring practices that discriminate on the grounds of age, disability, race, color, religion, sex, pregnancy, citizenship, military service and national origin. Thus, a city's hiring practice of merely advertising an opening to a certain geographic area, for example, may be used as evidence of discriminatory intent if a claim is filed against the city. For that reason, many cities choose to advertise job openings not only in a newspaper of general circulation, but in places like trade magazines and on the internet.

If your city does not have a hiring policy, including a policy regarding the advertisement of a job opening, you should seriously consider adopting one. Before advertising a job vacancy, the city should have a written job description in place that provides objective qualifications and responsibilities necessary to perform the job. The description should be devoid of any reference to sex, race, national origin, or any other protected class. In addition, a job description should include the essential functions of the position and other requirements, such as education, skills, and work experience. The job description should be used as a template for the job advertisement.

By taking the time to adopt a hiring policy, and to advertise a job opening to a wide range of people, your city: (1) increases its chance of hiring the best qualified person for the job; and (2) decreases the chance of facing a discrimination claim or lawsuit.



COUNCIL AGENDA BRIEFING SHEET

Meeting Date:

October 4, 2021

Agenda Item:

Consider a resolution appointing full member and an alternate member to fill vacancies on the Parks and Recreation Board.

Prepared by:

Kristi Gilbert, Town Administrator

Description:

Kathryn Langley has resigned her position on the Parks and Recreation Board. The Board has recommended that Steven Killfoil be moved from an alternate to a full board member. As a result, there will be a vacancy in an alternate position on the board.

Recommended Action:

Staff recommends approval of a resolution appointing Steven Killfoil to an unexpired vacancy with a term expiring June 2023 and appointing two individuals of Council's choosing to fill a one year and two year unexpired term as alternate members to the Parks and Recreation Board.

Attachments:

Resolution

**TOWN OF CROSS ROADS
RESOLUTION NO. 2021-1004_____**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF CROSS ROADS, TEXAS,
APPOINTING AN INDIVIDUAL TO FILL A VACANCY OF AN
UNEXPIRED TERM ON THE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD;
APPOINTING ALTERNATES TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION
BOARD; RATIFYING THE SEATS ON THE PARKS AND RECREATION
BOARD; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

WHEREAS, on September 21, 2020, the Town Council of the Town of Cross Roads adopted Resolution 2020-0921-03 establishing a Parks and Recreation Board, specifying the Board's power and duties and designating the number of individuals to serve on the Board;

WHEREAS, the Town of Cross Roads desires to designate the person(s) named herein to serve as members of the Board immediately upon adoption of this Resolution.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE
TOWN OF CROSS ROADS, TEXAS:**

Section 1. The above and foregoing premises are true and correct legislative findings and they are incorporated herein and made a part hereof for all purposes.

Section 2. That Steven Killfoil is hereby appointed as a member of the Parks and Recreation Board to fill the vacancy as a result of the resignation of Kathryn Langley with a term expiring June 2023.

Section 3. That _____ is hereby appointed as Alternate Seat #1 and _____ is hereby appointed as Alternate Seat #2.

Section 4. That previous appointments and terms are hereby ratified as follows:

Herman Oosterwijk, Seat #1	Term Expires June 2023
Ron Zohfeld, Seat #2	Term Expires June 2022
Blanche Dillon, Seat #3	Term Expires June 2023
Angela Gorton, Seat #4	Term Expires June 2022
Vicki Knox, Seat #5	Term Expires June 2023
Paula Paus, Seat #6	Term Expires June 2022
Steven Killfoil, Seat #7	Term Expires June 2023
_____, Alternate Seat #1	Term Expires June 2023
_____, Alternate Seat #2	Term Expires June 2024

Section 4. That this resolution, and the removal and appointment herein, shall take effective immediately from and after the date of its passage.

DULY PASSED by the Town Council of the Town of Cross Roads, Texas, on **the** _____ day of _____, **2021.**

TOWN OF CROSS ROADS, TEXAS

T. Lynn Tompkins, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST

Donna Butler, Town Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Matthew C.G. Boyle, Town Attorney



COUNCIL AGENDA BRIEFING SHEET

Meeting Date:

October 4, 2021

Agenda Item:

Discuss and consider approval of a resolution appointing an alternate Commissioner to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Prepared by:

Kristi Gilbert, Town Administrator

Description:

Eddie Army has resigned his position as an alternate member of the Planning and Zoning Commission. As a result, there is a vacancy in an alternate position on the board that needs to be filled by the Town Council.

Recommended Action:

Staff recommends approval of a resolution appointing _____ to an unexpired vacancy to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Attachments:

Resolution

RESOLUTION 2021-_____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CROSS ROADS,
TEXAS APPOINTING AN ALTERNATE MEMBER TO SERVE ON THE PLANNING
AND ZONING COMMISSION.**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 14 of the Town of Cross Roads Code of Ordinances, the Planning & Zoning Commission was created for the town; and

WHEREAS, the Commission is charged with the task of creating ordinances for the town, and any other duties or authority conferred on it by the town council or otherwise granted by state law; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Cross Roads desires to designate the person named herein to serve as members of the Commission immediately upon adoption of this Resolution.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN
OF CROSS ROADS, TEXAS:**

Section 1. The above and foregoing premises are true and correct legislative findings and they are incorporated herein and made a part hereof for all purposes.

Section 2: That _____ is hereby appointed as an alternate member of the Planning and Zoning Commission to fill the vacancy as a result of the resignation of Eddie Army.

Section 3. That this resolution, and the removal and appointment herein, shall take effective immediately from and after the date of its passage.

DULY PASSED by the Town Council of the Town of Cross Roads, Texas, on **the** _____ **day of** _____, **2021.**

TOWN OF CROSS ROADS, TEXAS

T. Lynn Tompkins, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST

Donna Butler, Town Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Matthew C.G. Boyle, Town Attorney



COUNCIL AGENDA BRIEFING SHEET

Meeting Date:

October 4, 2021

Agenda Item:

Consider a resolution appointing full member to fill a vacancy on the Municipal Development District.

Prepared by:

Kristi Gilbert, Town Administrator

Description:

Sara Montazeri has resigned her position as a member of the Municipal Development District due to work commitments. As a result, there is a vacancy created on the board that needs to be filled by the Town Council.

Recommended Action:

Staff recommends approval of a resolution appointing _____ to an unexpired vacancy to the Municipal Development District.

Attachments:

Resolution

RESOLUTION 2021-_____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CROSS ROADS,
TEXAS APPOINTING AN FULL MEMBER TO SERVE ON THE MUNICIPAL
DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT.**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 1 of the Town of Cross Roads Code of Ordinances, the Municipal Development District was created for the town; and

WHEREAS, the District is charged with the task of recommending grants; acquire, buy, sell, convey, lease and otherwise dispose of property, and any other duties or authority conferred on it by the town council or otherwise granted by state law; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Cross Roads desires to designate the person named herein to serve as members of the District immediately upon adoption of this Resolution.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN
OF CROSS ROADS, TEXAS:**

Section 1. The above and foregoing premises are true and correct legislative findings and they are incorporated herein and made a part hereof for all purposes.

Section 2: That _____ is hereby appointed as member of the Municipal Development District to fill the vacancy as a result of the resignation of Sara Montazeri.

Section 3. That this resolution, and the removal and appointment herein, shall take effective immediately from and after the date of its passage.

DULY PASSED by the Town Council of the Town of Cross Roads, Texas, on **the _____ day of _____, 2021.**

TOWN OF CROSS ROADS, TEXAS

T. Lynn Tompkins, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST

Donna Butler, Town Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Matthew C.G. Boyle, Town Attorney